

SOCCER

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NSW
CHAMPIONS
PICTURES
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WEEKLY

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1. STH MELBOURNE'S PETER TSOLAKIS



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3



THE GOAL IS CELEBRATED!

4

Here is Joe Montemurro's great sequence of Peter Tsolakis' 67th minute goal for South Melbourne against Sydney Olympic, won 2-0 by the former. 1.

Tsolakis shoots past Olympic keeper, Clint Gosling. 2. Tsolakis rejoices with the excited crowd. 3. Steve Tasios enters the celebrations. 4. And then the rest of the team joins in!

SCHOOLBOYS MOB
SUPERSTAR, PELE

KIDS RESPOND
TO GREAT PELE



Young fans from Brighton Le-Sands Public School swamped their soccer hero, the world famed Pelé at St George Stadium on Saturday night. — Photo by STEVEN GOSCH.

South Melbourne feast predicted whilst

Olympic Croatia clash

BY ALISTAIR RUSSELL

THE pick of next Sunday's Round 7 matches should be the clash of traditional titans Sydney Olympic and Sydney Croatia at St George Stadium.

In Melbourne, a goal feast is expected when South Melbourne play host to neighbours Sunshine at Middle Park.

Croatia, despite their thinning ranks at the start of the season,

have begun this campaign well but have not picked up a win away from home, while Olympic so far remain unbeaten at home.

Sydney Olympic's powder puff attack is one of the worst in the league.

Until stars Alistair Edwards, Abbas Saad and Marco Perinovic return, their tale of woe in front of goal must be expected to continue.

Although new signing Hector Perez appears not to suit

Croatia coach Tony Vrzina, the likes of Gordon Scott, Pedro Ricoy and Zeljko Jurin should prove too big a handful for Olympic.

The visitors should take the points, despite having only beaten the champions once on their home soil.

At Middle Park meanwhile, South Melbourne will be out to protect their 20

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 2

Pele Albums winners

Here are the lucky winners of a copy of the two set Pelé Albums each, for the competition conducted by Weldon International Pty Ltd, in conjunction with Australian Soccer Weekly.

Graham Parsons, 15 Newcastle Street, Stockton NSW 2295.

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Hearty congratulations! Your prize will be sent on as soon as possible.

ASW — THE ONLY SOCCER NEWSPAPER
COVERING AUSTRALIA EACH WEEK

Huge interest for ASF marketer

CLOSE to 70 applications were received by the Australian Soccer Federation/National Soccer League for the advertised position of Marketing and Public Relations Officer.

ASF general secretary Alan Vessey said: "There were many high quality applicants."

"We have advised those concerned that the selection process will take somewhat longer than was first anticipated."

On the coaching and development side, Mike Wells begins duty today and Steve Darby on November 19.

David Hoskins, 30, is on the job as ASF/NSL accountant after five years with Macquarie Bank.

He holds the degree of Bachelor of Commerce, and is a Certified Practising Accountant and a Chartered Secretary.

Married to Kerrie, their children are Rachael (5) and Brendan (7 months).

Mr Vessey also said that negotiations are proceeding for the proposed tour by Czechoslovakia, who are seeking a third match in which New Zealand could be interested.

— KEITH GILMOUR

Pelé in personal appearance

LAST Saturday Pelé made a special guest appearance at St George Stadium to kick-off the NSL match against Marconi — but the fans wouldn't let him.

Pelé was booked by St George as a special attraction to promote the game against last year's grand finalists, and became the hero of more than 20 St George junior teams, with whom he paused to be photographed.

But when the time came for Pelé to start the match, he was prevented from returning to the playing area by the large crowd which blocked his progress from the grandstand.

After a 14 minute delay, referee John Santa Isabel wisely ordered the match to commence.

Earlier, Pelé was given a rousing reception by the junior clubs.

He ran from squad to squad with officials and radio and television cameras streaming behind him across the St George Stadium playing area.

Pelé was presented to the large crowd by Federal MP, Gary Punch.

Officials of the St George club presented Pelé with a giant cake in honour of the 'Black Pearl's' 50th birthday, which he celebrated on October 23.

Also present for the memorable occasion was another former great, Ferenc Puskas, the champion Hungarian international of the 1950s.

— JOHN ECONOMOS

Olympic, Croatia clash (from Page 1)



Vince Colaguiri (left) in the action for St George against his former Marconi team mates Jean-Paul de Marigny and David Lowe, with Matthew Bingley just in the picture. Pic: STEVE GOSCH.

match unbeaten home run when they entertain the unpredictable Sunshine on Sunday, kicking off at 6pm.

Souths look the team to beat this season, and, with the return from injury of star striker Paul Trimboli, Georgie will have their work cut out.

At home, the Puskas-inspired outfit have dropped just one point, while their de-

fence is one of the soundest in the league.

Sunshine however have conceded eight goals away from home and have the worst defensive record in the competition.

George Cross, although struggling to find consistency and, faltering near the bottom of the table, have found goals easy to come by and a feast of

goals and a win for Souths looks likely.

Heidelberg must overcome an eleven year hoodoo if they are to down a rampaging Marconi at Bossley Park.

The signs look ominous for the visiting Bergers.

Marconi have one of the best defences and attacks in the league, hold a 100% record at home scoring eight goals and conceding just one, and have won three of their last four matches.

Bouncing back from the defeat at Wollongong City two weeks ago, Marconi led by the goalscoring feats of David Lowe were too classy for St George on Saturday evening and look to be back to their best.

Although the Bergers have enjoyed a reasonably good start to the season, the 11 year itch should continue this weekend.

St George, without a win in their last four matches, face another daunting task when they travel to Somers St to take on Melbourne Croatia.

Saints, who have never beaten Melbourne Croatia, will be looking to new signing Vince Colaguiri to lend a hand to big

striker Tony Krslovic to end their recent goal famine.

Melbourne Croatia however have picked up two straight wins at home without conceding a goal, and should prove too strong come Sunday.

Wollongong City get their chance to break a six year drought when they visit a suspension and injury torn Parramatta Melita at Melita Stadium.

Not since 1984 have Wollongong tasted victory against Melita, and the Wolves' stocks should be improved with the return from suspension of Zivko Hristovski.

Not so fortunate is Eagles coach Raul Blanco, who once again must come up with a patchwork side as Hugo Gimenez (suspended), Greg Dickinson and Alan Hunter (injured) will be miss-

ing from the lineup this weekend.

Craig Mason and Aytsek Genc, along with a handful of Blanco's squad, remain in doubt while the only good news is the return from suspension of striker Marshall Soper.

At home Melita have lost both matches to date, conceding six goals in the process and with the odds so heavily stacked against the home side the Wolves, who are yet to win away from home this season, should break the six year drought.

In remaining matches another draw appears likely when Adelaide City entertain a Preston side without a win away from home this season, while APIA, despite their poor goalscoring record, should take the points at Wollongong Macedonia.



David Skeen (left) of Wollongong City has been a club star again this season. Pic: STEVE GOSCH.



Parramatta Melita's Greg Brown seems to almost have the ball tied to his boot laces in this picture by ASW's cameraman, STEVE GOSCH.

AUSTRALIAN

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Undermanned Melita take point from Preston Makedonia

BY ANGELO STICCA



Alex McPherson

IN the National League round six clash at Connor Reserve on Sunday, Preston Macedonia drew 1-1 with an undermanned Parramatta Melita Eagles.

Preston, boosted by the return of defender Ian Roodhouse, provided a great deal of end to end action in the first half hour.

Andy Zinni was causing a small problem for Melita as was Nowicki, who constantly caused the Preston defence a number of headaches with his blistering speed.

The first goal came in the 42nd minute when a Preston attack saw the ball fall to Zinni, who slipped a shot past a lunging McPherson and into the net to give Preston the lead 1-0 at half time.

The second half opened with Oscar Crino becoming more prominent, but it was Melita's Nowicki who stole the show by first hitting the post in the 46th minute and then scoring the all important equaliser when he collected a through ball from the middle and rounded the oncoming

Preston keeper Traianides to score.

The rest of the match provided end to end action with both defences proving to be too strong for the respective forward lines.

The game ended at 1-1.

Eagles' coach Raul Blanco was pleased with collecting an away point, especially considering the absence of five of his first team players.

Preston coach John Gardiner was not too upset at dropping a point, acknowledging Melita's defence was quick to close down the Preston forwards and especially his main striker Warren Spink.

PRESTON: Traianides 6, Roodhouse 6, Jolevski 6, Jackson 6, Parton 6, Petrov 6, (sub 88th minute Pasevski) Zinni 7, Trajanovski 6, Spink 6, Crino 7, Markovac 6.

PARRAMATTA MELITA: McPherson 7, Williams 6, O'Donnell 6, Barrios 6, Gonzales 6, Callaghan 6, Nowicki 8, Vial 7, Brown 6, Cerro 7, Gunnig 5, (sub 66th minute Parison).

GOALS: Zinni, for Preston Macedonia in the 42th minute and Nowicki for Melita Eagles in the 46th minute.

YELLOW CARDS: O'Donnell 39m for Melita; Jolevski 87m for Preston.

REFEREE: Dennis Voutsinas 7.

CROWD: 2,500.

Filan saves Saints from rout

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

INCREDIBLE young St George goalkeeper John Filan saved his side from complete annihilation last Saturday night at St George Stadium, as Marconi cruised to a 3-0 victory.

The scoreline was far better than last year's effort, when Marconi ran out 7-0 winners with veteran Zlatko Nastevski scoring five.

Filan blocked shots from Jean-Paul De Marigny (8m), a header from Ian Gray (25m), Mark Jones (35m) and another from Gray (55m).

Whilst Filan was Saints' saviour, little David Lowe was Marconi's hero, netting a brace and constantly ripping through St George with his intelligent high work-rate.

Lowe scored in the 43rd and 64th minutes to lay Marconi's foundations for a convincing victory.

Exhausted and lying on the massage table in Marconi's dressing rooms after the match, Lowe told us: "I was beginning to think I'd forgotten how to score goals. I scored one last week and tonight's two were gratifying."

Ian Gray, Marconi's tough-as-steel midfielder who is rapidly racing back to top form, scored in the 70th minute and came within a whisker of nailing another two.

Gray's goal was a cracker, chesting down a cross then exploding a volley from seven metres that stretched the ropes.



Robert Wheatley (Marconi), playing his 200th NSL game, and Craig Moffit (St George) battling it out at St George Stadium on Saturday night. Marconi romped in 3-0. Pic: STEPHEN GOSCH.

Saints' giant central defender and skipper, Andy Koczka, ironically could have opened the scoring as early as in the seventh minute, but he was marginally off target.

Tommy McCulloch, Marconi's artistic link-man, volleyed from the edge of the box in the 15th minute, inches over the St George cross-bar.

Filan's most spectacular block came 10 minutes from the break.

Classy Nastevski, making his comeback from a long spell out after a full knee reconstruction, crossed from the right flank into the box. The ball was cleared as far as to Jones who blasted in a rocket drive well on

target, only to be denied dividends by a fully stretched Filan diving sharply to his left.

Saints' defender, Scott Baillie and midfielder, Mathew Bingley, each denied Marconi further goals by last second clearances off the goal-line from lethal shots by Lowe.

Frank Arok, St George's manager-coach, was in a humble

mood as he acknowledged: "They deserved to win as they were far superior. It was our worst performance in our last 25 outings."

Berti Mariani quietly stated: "There was much more commitment from all the boys and we used the strong wind advantage well in the first half."

ST GEORGE: Filan 8, Milicevic 5, O'Shea 5.

Koczka 5, Baillie 6, Harper 5, Moffitt 6, Coligliuri 5 (Kotsias 65m), Bingley 6, Krslovic 5, El Ali 5 (Illic 46m) 5.

MARCONI: Catlin 6, Wheatley 6, Calderan 6, Okon 6, De Marigny 6, Gray 7, Jones 6, McCulloch 7, Markovski 6, Nastevski 7 (Seal 71m), Lowe 8.

SCORERS: Lowe 43m, 64m, Gray 70m for Marconi.

Yellow cards: Nil.
Referee: J. Santa Isabel 8.

Crowd: 3,899.

MARCONI v HEIDELBERG



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7PM

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Closing date for application is
Monday, 3rd December, 1990.



Leaders South Melbourne held scoreless

Syd Croatia holds leaders in thriller

BY FRANK SCICLUNA

DESPITE the shortage of goals at Edensor Park last night, Sydney Croatia and South Melbourne gave fans plenty of entertainment in their high quality scoreless draw.

With the competition leaders having the better of the first period and Croatia well on top in the second, it was perhaps only fitting that both teams got something from the match.

For South in particular, it was enough to keep them on top of the table.

Sydney Croatia went into the match with an unchanged lineup although Ned Zelic, Manis Lamond and Mike Grbevski — who only lasted 39 minutes — had all been under fitness clouds.

Socceroo defender Mehmet Durakovic



BRUCE MACLAREN

was out of the South Melbourne team through suspension and was replaced by Paul Fernandes.

Souths started off much the better, displaying a fluent brand of eye-catching soccer which forced Croatia on the backfoot for the first 20 minutes.

But the home side gradually settled down to match their classy looking opponents, as the game developed into an intriguing contest full of good quality football.

Steve Blair nearly put Souths ahead with a bullet-like header which went wide after

11 minutes.

But Velimir Kupresak responded for Croatia, connecting with an Ivan Petkovic corner kick which went over the bar five minutes later.

Croatia were creating their fair share of chances with intelligent counter attacks.

The longer the first half went the more Croatia threatened from numerous effective raids on both flanks.

But all the good lead up work was spoiled by erratic finishing in front of goal.

Following the intensity of the first half the second developed into a more measured, chess-like, encounter.

Nevertheless with both sides continuing to concentrate on skilful football the match maintained plenty of interest.

Croatia became much more adventurous and should have punished South twice within a minute midway through the second half.

Pedro Ricoy first blasted his drive against goalkeeper Bruce McLaren's leg, and seconds later Petkovic weaved his way past three defenders inside the area but wasted his opportunity by delaying his final shot.

Towards the end Souths appeared to run out of ideas, looking content to simply avoid defeat and allowing Croatia to surge forward looking for a late winner.

Despite this glut of possession Croatia were unable to crack Souths solid defensive setup.

Both sides deserved their point after a match which was always entertaining despite remaining scoreless.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Franken 6, Carter 6, Grbevski (Koch 39m 6, Jurin 88m), Zelic 7, Kupresak 7, Runje 6, Petkovic 8, Gibson 6, Ricoy 6, Lamond 6, Scott 7.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: McLaren 6, Healy 6, Postecoglou 7, Fernandez 6, Blair 7, Wade 7, Taliadoros 6, Petersen 7, Trimboli 6, Tasios 6 (Wright 80), Tsolakis 7.

YELLOW CARDS: Petersen 14m for South Melbourne.
REFEREE: John McConnell 6.
CROWD: 3579.



Olympic hangs on against Bergers

BY JOHN MANGAN

DESPITE a disappointing second half display by Sydney Olympic, they still managed to salvage a point in their 1-1 draw with Heidelberg at the Olympic Village.



MICK HICKMAN

The reigning champions had dominated periods in the first term, but as the game progressed they were glad to try to catch Heidelberg on the break.

"I was happy to come away with a point," said Olympic coach Mick Hickman after the game.

"After deserving to win last week against South Melbourne and getting nothing, this week we lived a bit dangerously."

His team has been hit by injuries, and he now has two more to worry about after Andrew Bernal strained ligaments and Grant Lee damaged his ankle.

Heidelberg's Phil Stubbins gave the home fans something to shout about in the 24th minute when he received the ball from Stuart Stevenson, slamming it past the New Zealand goalkeeper, Clint Gosling.

Olympic replied almost immediately, catching Heidelberg napping.

Steve Refenes demonstrated his fierce pace and blasted a shot from the left side of the box into the back of the net.

Heidelberg boss Len McKendry was disappointed not to snatch victory, but was full of praise for his team — especially new signing Terry Rizopoulos.

"It was a very nerve-wracking debut for the lad," said McKendry.

"Not only was it a big Greek derby, but it was also a match against the reigning champions. He did exceptionally well."

World Cup referee Richard Lorenc kept his notebook busy all

day booking Heidelberg's Willie Herd, Angie Goutzoulis, Archie McGeachie and Stevenson, and Olympic's substitute Lou Triantafyllou.

HEIDELBERG: Olver 7, Bratten 6, Iliopoulos 6, McDowall 7, Cannell 6, McGeachie 6, Stubbins 7, Herd 6, Stevenson 6, Goutzoulis 7, Rizopoulos 6.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Gosling 6, Barrett 6,

Hooker 5, Spyridakos 6, Bernal 7 (Triantafyllou 52m), Ironside 6, Lee 6, Phillips 7, Ollerenshaw 6, Bennett 5, Refenes 7.

GOALS: Heidelberg 1 (P Stubbins 24m) Sydney Olympic 1 (S Refenes 27m).

YELLOW CARDS: Heidelberg Herd 28m, Stevenson 31m, Goutzoulis 50m McGeachie 68m, Olympic Triantafyllou 71m.

REFEREE: Richard Lorenc 6.

CROWD: 3,500.



Jean-Paul de Marigny (nearest camera) battles it out for Marconi against Saints. Marconi won 2-0 — Pic: STEPHEN GOSCH.

QUIT NATIONAL LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Melbourne	6	3	3	0	8	3	9
Marconi	6	4	0	2	13	4	8
Preston	6	3	1	2	13	9	7
Wollongong City	6	3	1	2	7	6	7
Sydney Croatia	6	2	3	1	5	5	7
Melbourne Croatia	6	3	1	2	11	12	7
Heidelberg United	6	2	2	2	9	7	6
Sydney Olympic	6	1	4	1	4	5	6
Adelaide City	6	1	3	2	8	10	5
Parra Melita	6	1	3	2	6	8	5
Sunshine GC	6	2	1	3	13	16	5
St George	6	1	3	2	7	10	5
Wollongong Mace	6	0	4	2	4	8	4
Apia Leichhardt	6	1	1	4	5	10	3

Results

ST GEORGE 0 MARCONI 3 (Lowe 2, Gray) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 3899.
APIA 1 (Gomez) ADELAIDE CITY 2 (T. Vidmar, Maxwell) at Lambert Park. Crowd: 1529.
SUNSHINE 3 (Kindtner 2, Hasler) WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA 0 at Skinner Reserve. Crowd: 2500.
HEIDELBERG 1 (Stubbins) SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Refenes) at Olympic Village. Crowd: 3500.
WOLLONGONG CITY 2 (Yankos 2) MELBOURNE CROATIA 0 at Brandon Park. Crowd: 2631.
PRESTON 1 (Zinni) PARRAMATTA MELITA 1 (Nowicki) at Connor Reserve. Crowd: 2500.
SYDNEY CROATIA 0 SOUTH MELBOURNE 0 at the Croatian Sports Centre. Crowd: 3579.

CROWDS

ROUND 6: 20,138
AVERAGE PER GAME: 2,876
TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 132,641
AVERAGE PER ROUND: 22,106

TOP SCORERS

WARREN SPINK (Preston)	6
DAVID SEAL (Marconi)	4
PHIL STUBBINS (Heidelberg)	4
TONY KRSLOVIC (St George)	4

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Wolves excel against Melbourne Croatia

BY LEN CHAFER

WOLLONGONG City came home 2-0 winners over Melbourne Croatia at Brandon Park after an action packed first half.

An incident happened in the 21st minute when referee Rob Davies awarded Wollongong an indirect free kick on the six yard line.

Mike Hollifield touched the ball to Charlie Yankos, who hit it into the roof of the net.

After the goal was scored, the Croatian players swarmed around the referee, protesting that the free kick had been awarded for dissent against Paul Donnelly, the Croatian fullback.

The Melbourne Croatia coach and manager Ante Grgic ran onto the middle of the field to cool the players down.

Then the referee gave yellow cards to Josip Biskic and goalkeeper David Miller, and after this happening the fourth official had to escort a Melbourne Croatia official from the bench for arguing.

Before this in the 14th minute Miladin Kuc took a pass from David Skeen on the right.

He ran with the ball and sent in a high shot which goalkeeper Miller tipped over the bar.

Three minutes later Frank Bate missed an easy chance when put through by Hollifield.

It was all Wollongong at this stage, and just before Yankos scored his goal Pat Brodnik hit a left foot shot on the turn which Miller dived to his left to push the ball around the post for a corner.

The action seemed to settle until the 45th minute when Brodnik was elbowed in the penalty area when running through to shoot for goal.

The referee pointed to this penalty spot and Yankos scored to make the halftime score 2-0.

In the second half Melbourne Croatia pushed players forward and in the 60th minute Joe Caleta came close to scoring with a diving header but just missed the goal.

At the other end Brodnik outran the Croatian defence on the right but his first time cross was taken cleanly by Miller.

It was Brodnik again in the 66th minute when he hit a vicious left foot shot from 20 yards with the ball hit-

ting the post.

Caleta had a shot in the six yard box blocked by a Wollongong defender when it seemed that the ball would enter the net.

In the 85th minute Jason Oldridge sent in a hard low cross from the right, and Kuc, poaching on the far post, hit it goalwards but Mark Talagic put the ball away for a corner.

Melbourne Croatia was unlucky not to score three minutes later when Caleta again had a shot cleared off the line by Richard Lloyd.

The game ended with a 2-0 victory for Wollongong to help their standing on the points table.

WOLLONGONG CITY: Bouhoutsos 6, Green 6, Hollifield 6, Morlando 7, Yankos 8, Lloyd 5, Skeen 6, Cahut 5, Bate 5 (Oldridge 76), Brodnik 8, Kuc 7.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Miller 6, Donnelly 5, Hannah 6, Duzel 5 (Silic 66), Talajic 6, Caleta 7, Milosevic 5, Biskic 5 (Petrovic 47).

Davidson 7, Kelic 6, Awaritefe 5.

GOALS: Wollongong City: Yankos 21m, 45m.

YELLOW CARDS: Wollongong: Kuc 41m. Melbourne: Biskic 22m, Miller 22m, Silic 71m, Talajic 71m, Donnelly 75m.

REFEREE: Rob Davies 6.

CROWD: 2,631.

George Pashalis re-elected



POPULAR George Pashalis was re-elected as president of Sydney Olympic at Sunday's annual meeting of the club.

His straightforward attitude and unrelenting work as leader of the club has helped it to recover its financial position.

Adelaide Sink Apia

BY LACHLAN BARKER

ADELAIDE City displayed speed and skill to comprehensively defeat Apia 2-1, in a fast paced game at Lambert Park last night.

The first incident of note in the first half was Adcity taking the lead in the 6th minute.

Darren Stewart, the Apia defender who is having a luckless season, attempted to play a diagonal ball to Klaus Okon on the left flank.

To his dismay the ball skewed off his boot and landed at the feet of Adcity's pacy left back, Tony Vidmar.

Vidmar set off upfield, beat three defenders and slipped the ball into the net under the advancing Apia keeper, Brett Hughes.

This goal seemed to affect the Apia players with a bad case of the jitters and a series of clanging errors were to follow.

Gerry Gomez and Stewart had an appalling mixup on the 17th minute resulting in the ball falling to Tony Vidmar once more.

He found Ernie

Tapai unmarked on the right and Tapai's shot scraped the bar.

Stewart again was involved when he played a bad ball that was intercepted by Aurelio Vidmar, who beat the defence but his shot was cleared.

The errors continued with Tapai, Vidmar and Maxwell all receiving great chances to score but unfortunately for Adelaide they were not converted.

Apia were best served by Klaus Okon, their busy right midfielder, who was the only one seemingly game to try a few things. They were unlucky in the 40th minute when a Rod Brown shot went just wide from an Okon led attack.

Halftime substitute Tony Lemezina added some much needed bite to the Apia attack and he almost scored twice in the opening minutes of the second half.

However, just when Apia were gaining some confidence Adelaide dealt a killer blow.

Robert Csoboth won the ball from Graham Jennings and found Tony Vidmar on the left flank.

Vidmar centred with precision to Steve Maxwell, who turned

and beat Hughes with his close range shot.

This was essentially the death knell of Apia's hopes. A late goal from an innocuous Gerry Gomez shot was the only joy for them on a dismal day.

Adcity's Socceroo player, Ernie Tapai, was in sublime form on the day.

His second half was even more dominant than the first.

Apia's injured captain, Brian Ellem, who was forced to miss the match, was somewhat rueful after the game.

He was reluctant to blame any single Apia player saying: "Adelaide seemed more hungry than us, but I'm not sure why".

Ellem has a medial ligament strain and could be out for as much as six weeks.

APIA: Hughes 5, Blagojevic 5, Jennings 5, Stewart 5, Okon 6, Clinch 5, MacQuarrie 4 (Brown 63), Gomez 3, Brown 4, Bundalo 5, McFadden 4 (Lemezina 45, 6).

ADELAIDE: Zabica 6, Shillabeer 5, T.Vidmar 7, Ivanovic 6, Tobin 6, Melta 6, Tapai 8, Csoboth 6 (Santrac 80), Mullen 5, Maxwell 6, A. Vidmar 6.

YELLOW CARDS: McFadden 40, Stewart 59.

REFEREE: Alex Spiratoski 7.

CROWD: 1529.

PLAYER AWARDS

Apia Leich v Adelaide City

- 3 E. Tapai (AC)
- 2 T. Vidmar (AC)
- 1 K. Okon (AL)

St George v Marconi

- 3 Filan (StG)
- 2 Lowe (M)
- 1 Gray (M)

Heidelberg v Syd Olympic

- 3 Stubbins (H)
- 2 Phillips (SO)
- 1 Goutzoulis (H)

W. City v Melb. Croatia

- 3 Brodnik (WC)
- 2 Yankos (WC)
- 1 Miller (MC)

Syd Croatia v South Melb.

- 3 Petkovic (SC)
- 2 Petersen (SM)
- 1 Kupresak (SC)

Sunshine v W'gong Mac

- 3 Kindtner (Sun)
- 2 Clarkson (Sun)
- 1 Talia (Sun)

Parra Melita v Preston

- 3 Nowicki (PM)
- 2 Zinni (P)
- 1 McPherson (PM)



NSL newcomers Wollongong Macedonia — they have made a solid start in higher company — Photo: JANUSZ KAMMA.

NSL GROUND DIRECTORY

SYDNEY

APIA LEICHHARDT Lambert Park, Marion St, Leichhardt.
MARCONI Marconi Stadium, Marconi Rd, Bossley Park.
PARRAMATTA MELITA Melita Stadium, Everley Rd, South Granville.
ST GEORGE St George Stadium, Bestic St, Rockdale.
SYDNEY CROATIA Croatian Sports Centre, 223-227 Edensor Rd, Edensor Park.
SYDNEY OLYMPIC St George Stadium, Bestic St, Rockdale.

MELBOURNE

HEIDELBERG UTD Olympic Village, Catalina St, East Heidelberg.
MELBOURNE CROATIA Somers St, Lot 2 Somers St, Sunshine North.
PRESTON MAKEDONIA BT Connor Reserve Broadhurst Ave, Reservoir.
SOUTH MELBOURNE Middle Park, Anghtie Drive, St Kilda West.
SUNSHINE GC Skinner Reserve, Churchill Ave, Braybrook.

ADELAIDE

ADELAIDE CITY Hindmarsh Stadium, Holden St, Hindmarsh.

WOLLONGONG

WOLLONGONG CITY Brandon Park, Squires Way, Fairy Meadow.
WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA Brandon Park, Squires Way, Fairy Meadow.

QUIT NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE



**WEEKEND
FIXTURES
ROUND 7**



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS v SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS

Middle Park 6pm

MARCONI v HEIDELBERG UNITED
Marconi Stadium 7pm

MELBOURNE CROATIA v ST GEORGE BSC
Somers Street 6pm

MELITA EAGLES v WOLLONGONG CITY
Melita Stadium 7pm

ADELAIDE CITY v PRESTON MAKEDONIA
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA v APIA LEICHHARDT
Brandon Park 7pm

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v SYDNEY CROATIA
St George Stadium 7pm



Kindtner helps Sunshine to clear victory

BY GREG BLAKE

SUNSHINE George Cross turned in a blockbusting second half of power-packed soccer, to defeat Wollongong Macedonia 3-0 at Skinner Reserve yesterday.

Georgie looked anything but bottom of the ladder material as it tore the heart from a Wollongong side which had battled manfully until halftime.

But eventually the visitors couldn't cope with Sunshine's powerhouse fast-break offence.

The architect in Sunshine's win was future Socceroo prospect Lorenz Kindtner, who scored twice and had a hand in almost every dangerous Sunshine move after the break.

Kindtner struck in the 65th and 87th minute, with Gary Hasler getting Sunshine's opener in the 58th minute.

Until the break the match had been evenly contested, between a pedestrian but workmanlike Wollongong, and a Sunshine side struggling to put the final touches on its play.

John Bradley rattled Sunshine in the 26th minute with a header against the crossbar.

David Clarkson at



Sunshine's Derek Hunter in action — ASW Pic.

the other end returned the favour on the half hour, when he turned

and knocked a shot against the Wollongong woodwork.

But after the break Sunshine began attacking in wave after com-

elling wave, and Wollongong's beleaguered defence could find no answer to Kindtner and his pacy cohorts.

Derek Hunter, who missed two gilt edged chances in the second half, should have shot Sunshine into the lead immediately after the restart, but missed in front of an open goal from point blank range.

But George Cross fans had only to wait until the 58th minute to start the celebrations.

Hasler rifled home a 22 metre drive and celebrated with an equally spectacular dance in front of the joyful home crowd, who were preparing themselves for the club's first home win of the new season.

Seven minutes later, Hasler's driving run was only scrambled clear as far as Craig Foster, whose blocked shot fell for Kindtner to calmly slot the ball home for 2-0.

Three minutes from fulltime, John Waddell's long ball fell to Hunter, whose pinpoint cross enabled Kindtner to grab his second goal of the game and Sunshine's third.

Sunshine boss Ernie Merrick couldn't hide his glee after the match but admitted he had been concerned when the team was 2-0

ahead.

"I was worried when they were all going forward and were keen to score more goals," he told the press.

"At that stage I wanted them to settle."

Wollongong fell further behind the eight ball during the second half, when they had to substitute determined defender Adam Sandy, as he left the ground to catch the last flight from Melbourne back to Wollongong.

Thanks to a prior agreement with his club, Sandy was allowed to leave before his teammates, to be with his wife, who was expecting their first baby.

Wollongong coach John Fleming admitted his disappointment, but conceded that his team was not up to it on the day.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS: Talia 8, Mori 6, Ketsakidis 7, Alevisos 5 (P Foster 80), Waddell 7, C Foster 6, Kindtner 8, Hunter 6, Hasler 7, Clarkson 7, Cranney 7.

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA: P Wilson 8, Cavanagh 5, Dunn 6, D Wilson 4, Dimov 5, Kay 6, Sandy 5 (Coelho 69), Bradley 5, Markovski 4, Fletcher 5, Thornthwaite 6.

GOALS: Hasler 58m, Kindtner 65m 87m (SGC). **YELLOW CARDS:** Dunn 41m (Wol).

REFEREE: T McCroe 6. **CROWD:** 2,500.

NSL YOUTH LEAGUE

Round 5

SOUTHERN DIVISION

11 November

Melbourne Croatia Colts 4 (Suric 2, Silic, Ivelja) South Melbourne Hellas 0, Sunshine George Cross 0 Altona Gate 4 (Micevski, Markovski, Trajkovski, Nicovski), Northcote City 2 (Robotis, Sidiropoulos) Adelaide City 8 (Barbaro 2, Taliadira 2, Brooks 2, Perre, Christopoulos) Preston Macedonia 1 (Markovac) Caulfield City 1, Brighton 1 (Caminos) Melbourne Croatia 7 (Stolica 2, Milanovic 2, Skenderovic, Bulubasic, Bergam) South Melbourne Hellas Colts 1 (Bot) Springvale City 0, Heidelberg United 5 (Papadopoulos 3, Nick Sangas, Ousalkas) Geelong City 2 (Plummer 2).

	P	W	D	L	A	Pts
Adelaide City	6	5	1	0	25	7 11
Preston Mak	6	4	2	0	13	2 10
Sunshine GC	6	4	1	1	15	10 9
Heidelberg	6	3	2	1	9	5 8
Altona Gate	6	3	1	2	11	7 7
Caulfield	6	2	3	1	8	9 7
SMH Colts	6	3	1	2	8	10 7
Melb. Croatia	6	3	0	3	17	11 6
SMH	6	2	2	2	8	8 6
Brighton	6	2	0	4	5	12 4
Melb. Cr Colts	6	1	1	4	7	14 3
Geelong City	6	1	1	4	8	17 3
Northcote City	6	1	0	5	7	19 2
Springvale	6	0	1	5	2	12 1

LEADING GOALSCORERS

Carlo Taliadira Adelaide City 6, Joe Barbaro Adelaide City 5, George Alikakos Caulfield City 5, Richard Milanovic Melbourne Croatia 5, Nick Papadopoulos Heidelberg United 5, Mitchell Cattermole Sunshine George Cross 5.

— ROY HAY

POINTS

12: Stubbins (H)
10: Filan (SG)
8: Petkovic (SC)
7: McPherson (PM), Skeen (WC)
6: Bundalo (Apia), Davidson (MC), Gonzales, Kintner (Sun), Zelic (SC), Dimov (WM)
5: Catlin (Mar), Hannah (MC), Spink (P), Zinni (P), Tsolakis (SM), Petersen (SM), Clarkson (Sun) 5, Phillips (SO), Yankos (WC)



SCORE with OZ-INTER



Other players to be featured

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van Basten Careca Gascoigne

Matthaus

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THE POOLS

1

NSW State League clubs up the ante on players

BY KEITH GILMOUR

VLADIMIR Zoric could be the most valuable player in NSW State League ranks.

That is provided that the asking price from his Auburn Yugal club of \$30,000 is largely relevant, and again provided that there are no other contracted players who are in fact worth more money on the transfer market than he is.

Actually Auburn Yugal, who ended up a modest ninth on the 14 team NSW Second Division for the 1990 season, have four of their players available at transfer fees of \$10,000 or more.

Zoric, or course, is tops at \$30,000 — a valuation rivalling the \$35,000 that took NSL topscorer David Seal from Sydney Croatia to Marconi.

Then follow George Nikiforidis (\$16,000),



DAVID SEAL

FEE	PLAYER	ASKING PRICE
\$30,000	Vladimir Zoric	Auburn Yugal
\$25,000	William Bennett	Blacktown City
	Paul Carter	Blacktown City
\$20,000	Ozcan Celik	Southern Dists
\$20,000	Tony Lemezina	Canberra Croatia
	Darren Wilson	Rockdale Ilinden
\$16,000	Grant Bard	Sutherland Shire
	George Nikiforidis	Auburn Yugal
\$15,000	Bruno Beddoni	Rockdale Ilinden
	Keith Warren	Rockdale Ilinden
	Hilton Phillips	Warringah Freshwater
\$12,000	Bradley Maloney	Blacktown City
\$12,000	Michael Apanian	Auburn Yugal
\$10,000	Rosario Pinto	Auburn Yugal
	Ray Junna	Canberra Croatia
	Richard Buchanan	Rockdale Ilinden
	Gregory Lerond	Rockdale Ilinden
	Leo Ulloa	Southern Districts
	Paul Dart	Sutherland Shire
	Nick Oustanbasidis	Canterbury Marrickville
	Stefan Janic	Wollongong Macedonia

NARIO TRANSFERRED



Brilliant utility player, Alejandro Nario will play next season for New Second Division State League Champion, Southern Districts.

The newly promoted club to The First Division is strengthening its squad for the 1991 competition.

The Turkish-supported team recruited the talented Uruguayan born player from Second Division Fairfield City.

Nario, 23, will be a great asset for this young, promising side, coached by Mike Johnson.

Nario recently played for Uruguay, winners of the 7th Sydney Ethnic Cup, at Gar-side Park.

— MARIO ETCHART

Michael Apanian (\$12,000) and goalkeeper Rosario Pinto for \$12,000.

Better known performers are on Blacktown City's list, where \$25,000 apiece could pick up Paul Carter and Bill Bennett.

Ozcan Celik, Tony Lemezina and Darren Wilson all weigh in at \$20,000.

Sutherland's Grant Bard, a handy scorer, is valued at \$16,000.

The list down to \$10,000 is shown below, but could there be some bargains for below that figure.

Blacktown Demon and former Young Soccerroo left-back Darren Northam weighs in at \$8,000.

That club, with some hopes of coming up the ladder to the NSL again, already has 11 players on firm agreements.

John Gibson, Geoff Gunning, Lawrie McKinna and Steve Mautone are out on loan to NSL clubs.

And speaking of the NSL clubs, their coaches surveyed the scene in NSW and elsewhere prior to the start of the season last month.

They have completed most of their buying.

Avala's Steve Berry and Paul Quarmby are available at \$6,000 and \$5,000 respectively, whilst Canterbury has \$6,000 on ex-Young Soccerroo goalkeeper, Chris Hummel.

Mark Butler, the 21 year old Manly Warringah defender is available for \$4,000.



Blacktown's John Gibson

If pedigree has some connection with value, Butler could have what it takes.

He is a nephew of Apia's long-time star, international Terry Butler.

Mt Pritchard have listed Trevor Daley and Simon Casserly at \$5,000 each, and ace North Shore striker Glenn Jeffery (26) is down for the same figure.

At 33, Sydney Macedonia would talk about their star Leonal Arcosa, as would Waverley over Ian Wotherspoon.

When it comes to goalkeepers, Warwick Young (30) is rated by Wollongong Macedonia at \$7,000.

And for poor old Inter Monaro, it looks like the end of the road.

Everyone has a free transfer.

Their list includes the stylish goal medal winner, Bas Giampaolo.

At 31 there is plenty of football life in him yet.

Manly and North Shore are now united

BY PAUL GOODWIN

FIRST Division club North Shore United and 2nd Division club Manly-Warringah have decided to combine their operations.

A working committee has been set up and the NSWFS has assured the new club a first division place is available to them.

Manly-Warringah president, Keith Pester, will continue in an identical role for the newly formed Manly North Shore United FC, while former North Shore president Don Allen will be the new vice-president.

Bob Davis, previously secretary with North Shore, will fill the same role again, ably assisted by Manly stalwart, Peter Mason.

Other positions on the new committee have been taken by an equal split from both former clubs, and new blood has also been introduced and is still being canvassed.

Michael King will still devote a considerable amount of time to ground maintenance, making Cromer Park the envy of most other State League sides.

It is the intention of the new committee that all soccer supporters north of the harbour will have a club to call their own.

It will be a club for all Australians, whatever their backgrounds.

It is intended that the new club will also embrace the interests of the Warringah-Freshwater supporters, and talks have already begun to include that club in all future planning.

The Warringah-Freshwater club is keen for the venture to succeed, and it is anticipated that the eventual blending of the three clubs will come about in stages over the next twelve months.

The need to centralize soccer on the northside has been apparent for some time, and the new club will project itself towards all existing Manly, North Shore and Warringah people.

All interested parties will have a say in the path that will be taken to give the region the highest possible standard of soccer possible.

It is for this reason that the club has adopted the working name Manly North Shore United, pending any further decision by all interested parties.

Already some decisions have been made which will clearly demonstrate the club's willingness to project a new image.

PERSONALITY PLAYER



Andrew Ferris (Granville Chile)

BIRTH DATE: 4/3/63.

HEIGHT & WEIGHT: 183cms, 80kg

MARRIED: Single.

HOME: Carlingford.

NICKNAME: 'Camion' (Truck).

CAR: Ford Falcon GL.

OCCUPATION: Landscape technician.

PREVIOUS CLUBS: Gladesville Hornsby and Epping.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS CLUB: Liverpool.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYERS: Van Basten.

FAVOURITE LOCAL PLAYER: Graham Arnold.

MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Billy Pilovski.

FAVOURITE GROUND: Brandon Park.

MOST MEMORABLE GAME: Hat trick against Macedonia, Ethnic Cup semi-final 1989, won by us.

BIGGEST THRILL: Winning Sydney Ethnic Cup 1989.

WORST INJURY: Broken collar bone.

FAVOURITE POSITION: Striker.

FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Surfing, squash, golf.

FAVOURITE FOOD: Pastas, chicken.

FAVOURITE MUSIC: All sorts.

FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Wide World of Sports.

BEST FRIEND: Girl friend.

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Norman Jones (former leading NSW referee).

AMBITIONS: Successful career, happily married.

MOST PROMISING TEAM-MATE: Christian Gonzalez.

PERSON YOU'D MOST LIKE TO MEET: Jack Nicholson.

— MARIO ETCHART

BATHURST '75 SOCCER CLUB

**COACH
REQUIRED**



Applications are invited for 1st grade coach for the 1991 Season.

Currently in Division 3.

All correspondence to Secretary P.O. Box 1156, Bathurst 2795 by November 30.

Further inquiries to Bruce Rooks on

☎ 063 37-1305 A.H.

The boot was on the other foot!

BY JOHN WARREN

READERS must have had a laugh at the screams coming from travelling Australian media men with the Kangaroo rugby league team in England.

The following story was extracted from a Sydney newspaper, and was penned by a well-known journalist.

After decades of snubbing soccer in this country, the same treatment was given to rugby league in England.

Perhaps the penny will finally drop for those proclaiming rugby league as "the greatest game of all."

A big ask from a sport which is a major one in only two states and one territory in Australia and just two counties in England

Australia's all-conquering Kangaroos have been coldly snubbed in London despite an expensive marketing campaign spearheaded by pop super star, Jason Donovan.

No pictures of the Kangaroos and Donovan appeared in any of the half-dozen major London papers this morning despite a sometimes stormy photographic marketing campaign at Wembley Stadium — the site for Saturday's first Test with Great Britain.

The Kangaroos have been stunned by the brutal indifference of the soccer-crazy media to their arrival in London and preparation for the Test.

Despite minimal media exposure, ticket sales for the Test are still heading towards a record 50,000.

Kangaroo manager Keith Barnes says he was surprised by the way the Kangaroos had been cold-shouldered after the marketing exercise with Donovan.

"It's very disappointing because so much work went into the photographic sessions," he said.

"For the Test match to be ignored like that by the London media is really surprising."

Barnes said the players were not overly concerned at not making the London papers, but it was a setback to the game in England.

"The players are here to win the Tests. That's their top priority," Barnes said.

"But for so much effort to go into a promotion for no return is disappointing."

More than 60 photographers crowded into Wembley Stadium yesterday for pictures of the Kangaroos in what developed into a cold war between both groups with honors about even.

Fleet Street photographers, who have an in-built arrogance and self-donated status inflated by constant association with more submissive world stars, attempted to dominate the Kangaroos with rudeness and intimidation.

[The no longer all conquering Kangaroos failed to beat England in their First Test encounter.]

Three divisions certain

STATE League soccer in SA looks sure to be restructured into three divisions of eight from season 1992.

A special meeting of all clubs last week agreed to the need for revamp of the State game.

Premier, First and Second Divisions of eight clubs are likely for the season after next.

"We again had a very positive response for clubs at a very full meeting," said SA Soccer Federation chairman Alex Cichanowski.

"Seven submissions were put by clubs over the restructuring and, after earnest discussion, three options clearly had more support from clubs.

"Two major options now are to be formalised to be put before a properly constituted special meeting of clubs."

The general principle of three divisions of eight seems certain in 1992.

But there are two schools of thought over next season.

One prefers the status quo with the other in favor of a North and South set-up.

Criteria for the three divisions in 1992 will be based on 1991 results, result from 1985-90, financial stability, administrative record and junior set-up facilities.

REGIONAL NEWS

ASW is always keen to publish some stories and pictures from main regional centres throughout Australia.

Publicity officers, here is the chance to make your district wider known in the game.

Address material to ASW, PO Box 406, Broadway 2007.

JOHNNY WARREN HAS HIS SAY

Davo, don't waste your ability

BY JOHN WARREN

ASK me to name the top twenty Australian players since the mid-fifties and the name Alan Davidson would figure in that list.

That is how highly I rate Davo who, for one reason or another, never really fulfilled his enormous potential with the Socceroos.

I say this simply because I expected more.

Yet the injuries at the wrong time, the wrong move at the wrong time (Nottingham Forest) etc, etc, substantially restricted what should have been an even more illustrious international career for one of our finest.

No less than 77 international appearances for Australia, 49 of them full international caps says a lot about Davo's contribution.

It's just that I felt he had the ability to do even more.

As a Young Soccer-oo I rated him one of our best ever.

For the Socceroos, at his best, as he was in the Bi-Centennial Gold Cup final against Brazil where he outplayed and mixed it for 90 minutes with the Valdoses and Geovanis, he confirmed my high rating.

But events of recent months may mean that we will still have to see the best of Alan Davidson in the green and gold.

Prematurely retiring after the Socceroos' exit from the 1990 World Cup, Davo gave it away too early for my money.

Like too many Australian players, the approaching age of 30 scares too many out of the game too early.

A player out at 30, particularly a defender, is a sheer waste of experience and ability.

But perhaps all that is changing and Davo could well be back.

Eddie Thomson could do worse than use the experience of Davo while he is rebuilding the Socceroos.

According to Alan, Thommo "has been in touch three or four times" to coax him back as sweeper and captain of the new Socceroos.

"We talked about re-organising the defence, my experience, the captaincy," says Davidson.

"Without being smart about it though, I have some pretty big



Alan Davidson at his determined best for Australia. Columnist Johnny Warren believes Davo retired too early from international football and wants him back to lead the Socceroos.

decisions to make in the near future."

"I would love to captain the Socceroos."

"However, I have neglected my business and family life for so long that I also feel it is time to put something into that area of my life."

"And while Thommo can want me back, I still have to earn my place on my current ability, not on my past."

Davidson, who turned 30 on June 1 1990, sees the sweeping role he has at Melbourne Croatia and possibly Australia as far less demanding than in the engine room of midfield.

And while he contemplates a return to the Socceroos, he is enjoying life with early NSL pacesetters, Mel-

bourne Croatia.

"We are not playing



well," he told me as his side sat on top of the table and a few days before Preston gave them a tennis hiding 6-1.

"Perhaps that is the sign of a good team —

to be playing below form yet getting results."

"It's a bit early to rate our chances, but I am enjoying playing behind George Hannah and Andrew Marth."

"I just clean up and use my experience to stop over eager full backs attacking too much."

"We've had results with a conservative approach — keeping it tight at the back and catching opponents on the break."

"A lot wrote us off this season because we had lost Zeljko Adzic."

"But we've adjusted and there is talk of signing a prolific Argentinian striker, who comes highly recommended by Adzic."



"They played together in North America, and Zelko reckons he'll score 20 goals in an NSL season."

"In fact, he goes so far as to say he will be the best striker this country has ever seen."

Apart from his own club's chances, Davo sees only six clubs in with a chance of becoming champions — Marconi, Sydney Olympic, South Melbourne, Adelaide City in that order and one dark horse (Apia Leichhardt).

But can Melbourne Croatia really go on with the job this year?

Remember that last year, along with the other interstate challengers Adelaide City, South Melbourne and his own Melbourne Croatia, they all fell in a heap when it really mattered.

"Injuries and suspensions killed us last year after we finished runners up to Marconi in the minor premiership," says Davidson of a disappointing end to what had promised to be the Melbourne giant's best ever NSL season.

"We lost Adzic to Hajduk Split on the eve of the finals, Milosevic was suspended for two games, and I was suspended for one during the Top Five and we had a reshuffled side each game."

"Hopefully that will not be the case if we make the five this year."

Returning to the Socceroo comeback, Alan Davidson says "I will not commit myself at this stage, it depends on my form, my family set up and my business career."

He is building a courier service in Melbourne together with growing media commitments to the Melbourne Herald-Sun.

"I would rather retire with dignity than make a half-baked return to the Socceroos and let everyone down," he concluded.

Amateur Soccer Federation

STEPANOVSKI'S AWARD

BY GREG BLAKE

DUBBED a "pocket-battleship" by his team mates, Zarko Stepanoski has been named player of the year by Victoria's quickly expanding Amateur Soccer Federation, formerly the Industrial and

Amateur League.

Stepanoski, from the Footscray United club, also finished far and away the leading scorer from either of the competition's two first divisions.

Here are all the winners of the various awards in the Amateur League for 1990:

SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD — Bowater
PLAYER OF THE YEAR — Zarko Stepanoski (Footscray United)

LEAGUE CHAMPION — Thomastown United
REVIEW GROUP LEAGUE CUP WINNER — Ardeer
INVITATION CUP WINNER — Elwood United
DIV. ONE MORNING CHAMPION — Tottenham
DIV. ONE AFTERNOON CHAMPION — Thomastown United

DIV. TWO NTH WEST CHAMPION — Watsonia Heights

DIV. TWO STH EAST CHAMPION — Endeavour United

DIV. TWO MORNING CHAMPION — Dallas Osijek

DIVISION THREE CHAMPION — Laminex

DIVISION FOUR CHAMPION — Coburg Assyrian

DIV. ONE AFTERNOON BEST AND FAIREST — Halil Hocatürk (Thomastown Utd)

DIV. TWO NTH WEST BEST AND FAIREST — Chris Murzyn (Democritus)

DIV. TWO STH EAST BEST AND FAIREST — Virgilio Carvalho (Endeavour Utd)

DIV. TWO MORNING BEST AND FAIREST — Terry Page (Kings Park Slivika)

DIVISION THREE BEST AND FAIREST — Pando Stojevski (Whittlesea)

DIVISION FOUR BEST AND FAIREST — Joseph Biro

DIV. ONE MORNING TOP SCORER — Zarko Stepanoski (Footscray United)

DIV. ONE AFTERNOON TOP SCORER — Newton Dantas (Flamingo)

DIV. TWO NTH WEST TOP SCORER — Chris Murzyn (Democritus)

DIV. TWO STH EAST TOP SCORER — Virgilio Carvalho (Endeavour Utd)

DIV. TWO MORNING TOP SCORER — Ivan Matijus (Dallas Osijek)

DIV. THREE TOP SCORER — Stan Anagnostou (Laminex)

DIV. FOUR TOP SCORER — Con Christanthou (Bentleigh Green Rovers)

REFEREE OF THE YEAR — Mario Ibeas.

JEFF OLVER COLUMN



UNTIL
NEXT
WEEK

KEEP
KNOCKING
THEM IN

Wangaratta, — here I come!

Once again it's time to pack the bags and head for the Country.

On this occasion the destination is the North Eastern Region of Victoria, at Wangaratta, Shepparton and Seymour.

The North Eastern Expo is expected to attract nine hundred children over three days.

Early in the week the Junior League Management Committee held their annual general meeting.

Congratulations to George Zafiroopoulos who was elected chairman, and Ken Slack, who was appointed as secretary.

Congratulations to Brandon Park on winning the VSF Provision League Cup Final.

Speaking to Bill Allison, coach of the Brandon Park team, he said his team was pleased to play at Middle Park and soak up the atmosphere of such a good stadium.

Also, the Victorian Soccer Federation should be congratulated

on giving teams such as Brandon Park and East Richmond the opportunity to play on this excellent venue.

On a personal note, it was great to see Paul Trimboli back playing at the weekend after his knee injury.

Also it was heartening to see Warren Spink has fully recovered, and that he has started knocking goals in again after a horror run with injury last year.

APOLOGY

ASW's Greg Blake would like to apologise for any offence caused to any Melbourne club by last week's story regarding press facilities at grounds.

He wishes to point out that the article was in no way meant as a reflection on the clubs in question, but merely to establish that the life of the pressman is not always as attractive as it might seem.

The Melbourne clubs are making every effort to upgrade facilities for both supporters and the media, but many are hamstrung by lease agreements with local councils.

He would also like to go on record to congratulate all Melbourne NSL clubs for doing everything possible to accommodate the new 3AK Radio broadcasting team.

Lifting the curtain on Melb Croatia's Ante Grgic

BY GREG BLAKE



NEW Melbourne Croatia coach Ante Grgic has already managed to outwit, out-fox and generally confuse the Melbourne media, club officials and even some of his players.

And the 50-year-old shows no signs of being prepared to stop playing cat-and-mouse games.

He's a wily, cunning old fox — and I like him already.

It started just a few days prior to the Melbourne club's home game with Apia-Leichhardt in round four.

Grgic wasn't all that keen on divulging team information in the days leading up to the clash, and thus the Melbourne dailies responded by steering clear of pre-viewing the game in depth.

But the fun really started when Croatia trounced Apia 3-0 and the new team boss, through an interpreter, told the press he thought his team was "lucky to win".

He said Apia had dominated and that his team had a long way to go.

"But we could have won by six clear goals," he added with a smile.

Work that lot out if you can!

When Grgic's theories were mirrored by Apia's equally as cunning Manfred Schaefer, the press reflected the comments in their match wrap-up.

That played into Grgic's hands. But like the press brigade, even the Croatia administration missed the point.

When Melbourne Croatia was generally classed as being lucky to win by the dailies, club president Steve Mandecik hit the roof. He obviously missed the point of Grgic's game.

Mandecik even went as far as publicly slamming one Melbourne writer of some renown and banning said reporter from talking to Melbourne Croatia's coach or players, a ban which has since, sensibly, been rescinded.

Joker

I reckon Grgic would have sat back and laughed.

He'd taken everybody for a ride.

One journalist who has managed to get to know Grgic is AAP's Paul Klaric, who speaks fluent Croatian.

And according to Klaric the new Melbourne Croatia boss would have loved the match reports slamming his team.

"I think he would have wanted his players to read that report," Klaric told ASW.

"He'd use it as a weapon to get his team up."

"He chooses a different way of building the team up for every game and I'd be very surprised if he wasn't happy when he got the bad press after beating Apia."

"Each week he uses something different."

"For the Apia game he motivated the team by telling them to go out and imagine that they weren't at the top of the table, but at the bottom."

Grgic's wily psychological ploys are taking a toll on the media. 'Herald-Sun' writer Peter Desira was the scribe frustrated by Grgic's reticence to divulge team news prior to the game.

At the media conference poor Pete asked Grgic why.

Grgic, whilst playfully punching and embracing a bemused Desira, told him that where he came from "it was not the tradition."

"We don't get called up by reporters and asked our secrets."

"If you want to call it secretive, it is."

"But the most important thing for any club or coach is to get results."

"If you gave the supporters a choice between reading about the team on Saturday and then losing or just getting a vague idea about the team on Saturday, and seeing them win on Sunday, I think most supporters would rather see the team win."

Seemingly pacified, Desira went about his business but it wasn't long before he discovered that Grgic had sold him another red herring.

Initially Grgic had told him that Theo Selemidis, substituted in the Apia match before 30 minutes had elapsed on the clock, had had mus-

cle trouble.

Selemidis told Desira afterwards that there was no problem.

"I'm OK," said the 300 plus game veteran.

"Are we going to be playing mind games all season," said a now frustrated Desira.

"He likes to work without people peering over his shoulder," explains Klaric.

"He believes that what will attract supporters to Melbourne Croatia will be reading that they are winning each week."

What is clear about Grgic is that few people have had the chance to get to know much about him yet.

According to Soccer-o Alan Davidson Grgic has thus far kept his distance from the players.

His credits before coming to Australia include stints as player and youth team coach at Hajduk Split and coaching at second division Sibinek.

He also studied coaching at the University in Zagreb.

He is reputed to be a strict disciplinarian and hard trainer, but in contrast his personality comes across as a man who recognises that soccer is, after all, only a game.

Misinformation

But what we do know is that he is a wily fellow with the ability to confound the press.

In his own cagey way Grgic will make sure that the press will only get the information he wants it to.

This should be a challenging test for the soccer media and that in itself should make it fun to have him around.

And by the way, should you mention to Grgic that you felt that his team didn't play very well on a given day, and he responds with genial agreement, take it with a pinch of salt.

Perhaps, too, his team's demoralising 6-1 loss to Preston will cause him to do more than a mite of rethinking over his psychological ploys for the future...

Unconfirmed reports have suggested that there is a rift between the pro and anti-Grgic factions.

Unfortunately for him, he is not yet fluent in the English language, and thus it is believed there have been misunderstandings between coach and players.

One particular player is understood to have been scathing in his assessment of the new coach, after learning that he was to be dropped from the first team through a newspaper report, with the news allegedly leaked to the newspaper by Grgic himself.

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South Melbourne knocks up a ton

BY GREG BLAKE

Super surface at Middle Park is a huge asset

SOUTH Melbourne recorded its 100th home win in the QUIT National Soccer League when it downed Sydney Olympic 2-0 at Middle Park on November 5.

The club is in the middle of the best-ever run of match results at home in the NSL history, and the second best ever by any club.

Even the most successful club in QNSL history, mighty Marconi, cannot match South's imposing home record.

At the start of the season Marconi was still six victories short of the 100 win milestone.

What are the intangibles which make some clubs more successful on their home turf and why are others, like South Melbourne, virtually unbeatable on their own patches.

South Melbourne's record at Middle Park is truly imposing.

Of the current NSL teams only Marconi has anything close to even a 50 percent record at Middle Park, having recorded five wins in 11 visits.

The likes of Melita, Blacktown and Apia have never won at the ground and other long-time NSL success stories such as Heidelberg (three wins in 13 starts), Sydney Olympic (one in 11) and Adelaide City (two in 14) invariably struggle there.

South Melbourne hasn't been beaten at home since May 1989, when it went down in



STEVE BLAIR

successive weeks to Preston Makedonia and then Adelaide City.

Before that Souths had gone from April 1988 without a home loss.

Paul Wade, who has played for and against South Melbourne at Middle Park, recalls that time under Brian Garvey when the home side was struggling to win under the weight of pressure from home fans.

Boost

He says summer soccer has turned things around. "Summer soccer has boosted the crowds and that has meant bigger and more vocal support for us," he explains.

"I can imagine other sides getting psyched out with the Hellas fans giving them heaps and making us feel ten feet tall.

"There's more to it than that of course.

"Just travelling away makes a difference.

"I think the ground itself suits our style of play as well.

"The surface is like a carpet and to me it ranks second only behind Marconi's ground."

Wade says he gets the same feelings of being unwelcome at grounds like Heidelberg and Sunshine, and he can understand why opponents can hate the trip down to the banks of the Albert Park lake.

One opposing player, who refused to be named for obvious reasons, says he can fully understand why most players hate the journey to Middle Park and why it is that South Melbourne has gone undefeated in 34 of its last 36 games at the ground.

"They make you feel like rubbish when you go there," he admitted.

"You feel unwelcome from the minute you walk into the place and the away dressing rooms are tiny and awful.

"The crowd stays on your back all day and I can't wait to get away after a match."

Preston's George Jolevski says it's a combination of the trip away, the unfamiliar surroundings and the crowd.

"It's just a bad trip away," he explained.

"Just going there and knowing their record there makes it tough.

"We don't get much away support at Middle Park so the crowd is always one-eyed in its support for South Melbourne.

"And home teams always adapt to their own ground better.

Surface

"Yes, we feel comfortable with it," agreed long-time Hellas champion Steve Blair.

"There are lots of things that come into it, but teams fear coming to Middle Park because they know we'll attack them there.

"The surface suits us as well and it's a nice wide park."

Victorian director of coaching Tim White believes the Middle Park crowd isn't a factor.

According to him, South Melbourne can thank its surface for the club's unusual territorial dominance.

"It's a sand-based ground, so that means there is always a smooth surface," White told ASW.

"South Melbourne has always been a very skilful side and the pitch down there allows them to play a very smooth style.

"That's why South Melbourne always struggles at places like Wollongong, where the pitch is always such a good leveller."

For the record, South Melbourne's overall home record is 100 wins, 48 draws and 41 defeats in home league fixtures, a 65 percent success rating.

South's unbeaten run at Middle Park now spans 20 games.

The run started in June 1989, when South Melbourne snuck home and beat Apia 3-2.

But the 19-game undefeated run, the second best in NSL history, is still seven games short the all-time record mark set by Sydney Croatia.

Sydney Croatia went 26 games without defeat at its Croatian Sports Centre home between 1984, its first NSL season, and 1987.

Following a round 27 1984 defeat by Marconi, the Sydney Croatia side went through 26 games without loss at home until downed by Adelaide City in round 10 in 1987.

Sydney Croatia is the only side in NSL history to boast two full seasons of competition without suffering a loss at home.

Victorian Ansett World Cup

GROUP A

GREECE
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YUGOSLAVIA
ALBANIA

GROUP B

CHILE
AUSTRALIA
SCOTLAND
MALTA

GROUP C

PORTUGAL
POLAND
MAURITIUS
ARGENTINA

GROUP D

ENGLAND
SPAIN
HUNGARY
EL SALVADOR

WEDNESDAY	14TH NOVEMBER	6.30 P.M.	TURKEY vs ALBANIA
WEDNESDAY	14TH NOVEMBER	8.00 P.M.	GREECE vs YUGOSLAVIA
SATURDAY	17TH NOVEMBER	1.00 P.M.	PORTUGAL vs ARGENTINA
SATURDAY	17TH NOVEMBER	3.00 P.M.	SPAIN vs EL SALVADOR
SATURDAY	17TH NOVEMBER	5.00 P.M.	CHILE vs MALTA
SUNDAY	18TH NOVEMBER	12 NOON	SCOTLAND vs AUSTRALIA
SUNDAY	18TH NOVEMBER	2.00 P.M.	POLAND vs MAURITIUS
SUNDAY	18TH NOVEMBER	4.00 P.M.	ENGLAND vs HUNGARY
WEDNESDAY	21ST NOVEMBER	6.30 P.M.	TURKEY vs YUGOSLAVIA
WEDNESDAY	21ST NOVEMBER	8.00 P.M.	GREECE vs ALBANIA
SATURDAY	24TH NOVEMBER	1.00 P.M.	WINNER GROUP B vs RUNNER-UP GROUP D
		3.00 P.M.	WINNER GROUP D vs RUNNER-UP GROUP B
SUNDAY	25TH NOVEMBER	1.00 P.M.	WINNER GROUP C vs RUNNER-UP GROUP A
		3.00 P.M.	WINNER GROUP A vs RUNNER-UP GROUP C

WEDNESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

6.30 P.M.	WINNER FROM GROUP B & D	RESULT OF 1.00 P.M. GAME
	vs	RESULT OF 3.00 P.M. GAME
	WINNER FROM GROUP D & B	PLAYED 24TH NOVEMBER
8.00 P.M.	WINNER FROM GROUP C & A	RESULT OF 1.00 P.M. GAME
	vs	RESULT OF 3.00 P.M. GAME
	WINNER FROM GROUP A & C	PLAYED 25TH NOVEMBER

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AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY — NOVEMBER 12, 1990

Pele — they aren't making more of them

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

PELE, the world's greatest ever footballer, arrived very early last Wednesday morning at Sydney's International Airport, from Italy via New York.

He was immediately bombarded with questions from a huge contingent of members of the electronic and print media.

This was Pele's third trip Down Under.

He first toured Australia in 1972 with the Brazilian club side, Santos.

This was his only club, apart from when he went to America at the end of his career to play with the New York Cosmos.

His last trip here was two years ago to help the ASF promote the Bicentennial Gold Cup.

This time Pele was brought here by the Weldon Publishing Company, who have the exclusive world rights to 'The Pele Albums', a magnificent double volume that traces his entire career.

Pele firstly flatly denied that he was interested in becoming president of his home country, Brazil, but clearly stated that he wanted to see the lot of Brazilians, especially children, improved.

When questioned about FIFA's intentions of



Pele faces the press at Sydney International Airport's VIP lounge. On his right is Jane Curry, chief executive of Weldon Publishing.

making certain changes to the Laws of the Game, including enlarging the dimensions of the goals, Pele responded: "FIFA is a very conservative body."

"This topic is most controversial and right now in Italy there are many discussions taking place."

"Everything else in life is changing."

"Sport is changing, baseball, tennis, volleyball etc have all made many changes over recent years."

"But in soccer, there have been no changes since 1866."

"For me, the problem is not so much to change the rules but to alter the mentality of the people handling young players."

"Today, young players are treated as if they were hardened professionals."

"They are trained hard, taught hard marking, given tactics etc."

"These are all wrong things to teach 12 year olds."

"It takes away the

personality of the children. Let them be creative and expressive."

"Today it is easier to mark out players in defence than to play in attack and be creative."

"One change I would like to see is the doing away of the defensive wall in free-kicks."

"When I played, I would beat one, two or three players with the ball and then was set on a one-on-one situation with the goalkeeper."

"But if I was fouled, the free-kick was no longer

a one-on-one situation as the 'wall' is set up and this 'wall' should not exist."

"Other players are brought in to stop you from scoring from the free-kick."

"Why?"

"The wall should not exist."

Pele was asked who he rated the better player, he or Maradona?

"I don't like comparing players."

"We had different styles entirely."

"Maradona is a very good player."

Why hasn't Brazil won a World Cup Final over the last 20 years?

"I agree that the last World Cup Final in Italy was not the best of World Cups."

"But with Brazil, because of its bad economic problems, it has greatly affected the supply of our players over recent years."

"Above all, our youth players are not being



Pelé, mobbed by young fans at Dymocks in Sydney. Photo: NELSON CABRERA.

Smilingly, Pele turned and rolled out... "My mother and father have closed down the machine so there will be no new Pele."

The wisest of his wise answers followed.

Do you have a desire to manage a national squad like Beckenbauer?

To the children he says: "Look after your health and bodies."

"Keep fit throughout your life and above all, stay away from drugs."

Tonight (Monday) a formal dinner will be held in his honour at Sydney Football Stadium, all net proceeds to go towards the Olympic



The living legend and ASW's John Economos.

handled well.

"Brazil in my time had many many good players."

"They are just not there today."

The 1994 World Cup Finals to be staged in America, will they be a success?

"Yes."

"In America they have great promotional and organisational energies."

"In New York alone there are many foreigners with a great passion for the game."

Who would you say were the greatest players in your time?

"There were just too many."

"It is a very hard question."

"In goalkeepers I would say Lev Yashin, Gordon Banks then you could mention Ferenc Puskas, Di Stefano, Franz Beckenbauer, Bobby Moore, George Best (but he was confused with his night and day life)."

"There were just too many to pick from."

"I would always look for consistency and over many years."

"Character off the field plays a big role as well, you must remember."

The interview broke with a spot of humour with the next question.

Is there going to be a 'New Pele'...

"No, not at all."

"When you become a manager of a national squad, you automatically inherit players who already have been coached bad habits that you just do not want them to have and you cannot change them."

Games Fund for Barcelona 1992.

Pele will greet junior and schools teams, coaches, managers and friends at the Stadium, prior to the dinner.

Gather at the Pink Entry Gate No 1 on Moore



A fan of the great man, Pelé, embraces him at the Dymocks book signing. — NELSON CABRERA.

"The perfect solution is to takeover a young squad, say top 16 or 17 year old players and stay with them through the years till they reach senior level."

Park Road at 6pm. Champion junior teams will give exhibitions in the stadium, bands will play, and a video will be shown of the matchless Pele in action.

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FESTIVAL VIDEO

Pele's programme sees Sydney lead the way

BY LOU GAUTIER

AFTER last week's exhausting schedule in Sydney, Pele will be looking forward to a much more leisurely pace this week when he spends most of this time in Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide.

If you ever had any doubts that soccer is best marketable in Sydney, have a look at Pele's programme last week when he was exclusively in Sydney:

Wednesday: 12pm: Press Conference VIP Lounge — Airport, Media Interview Mike Cockerill — SMH, Radio Interview 2DAY FM.

Thursday: 8.30am: TV Interview "Good Morning Australia", Radio Interview 2BL, 11.30am: TV Interview "Ray Martin Show", 2.00pm: TV Interview "Wide World of Sport", 2.30pm: TV Interview Mike Gibson "Sydney Tonight", 3pm: TV Interview "Sports-world" Regent Hotel, 4.15pm: Radio Interview ABC Radio Level 2, 100 William St, Kings Cross, 5.00pm: Book Signing, 6.00pm: Dy-mocks, 424 George St.

Friday: 12.15pm: Book Signing, 1.45pm: Angus & Robertson Imperial Arcade, 2.00pm: Radio Interview 2SM — Regent Hotel, TV Interview ABC — "The Big Match" Regent Hotel.

Saturday: 11.30am: Book Signing, 2.00pm: K-Mart Bankstown, 7-9pm: St George Stadium

And this is the great one's programme this week until his departure on Friday:

Monday: Brisbane: Morning: "In Brisbane Today", 12.15pm: Book Signing, 1.15pm: Bookworld, PO Square, Brisbane/Sydney 2.00pm-3.20pm: Fly to Sydney, Flight 465. Sydney: 4.30pm: TV Interview SBS — "Face to Press" Regent Hotel, 5.00pm: Media Interview British Soccer Weekly, Regent Hotel, 6.30pm: Dinner, Sydney Sport Stadium.

Tuesday: Sydney/Melbourne 10.00am-11.15am Fly to Melbourne, Flight 4C5, Melbourne T.B.C.: Press



Pelé catches up with the local news.

Conference Airport, 12.15pm: Book Signing, 1.45pm: Angus & Robertson, Elizabeth Street, 3.00pm: Radio Interview 3AK — Studio, T.B.C.: Media Interviews, 6.30pm: Myer Dinner, Olympic Room — M.C.G.

Wednesday: Melbourne 12.00pm: Meet Executives — Myer, 12.30pm: Book Signing, 2.00pm: Myer — Bourke Street (3rd Floor), 3.00pm: Book Signing, 4.00pm: Target, Chadstone, Melbourne/Adelaide 6.20pm-7.00pm: Fly to Adelaide, Flight 50, Adelaide T.B.C.: Press

Conference Airport. Thursday: Adelaide 12.30pm: Book Signing, 2.00pm: Bookplace, Rundle Mall, 3.00pm: Book Signing, 4.00pm: Bookland, Edwardstown, Adelaide/Sydney 6.30pm-8.40pm: Fly to Sydney, Flight 29. Friday: Sydney

While every major show in Sydney made sure it lined Pele up for live or delayed interviews last week, giving him no breathing space, outside of Sydney he will only make an appearance in "In Brisbane Today" and

no TV appearances at all in Melbourne, only a radio interview at 3AK.

Melbourne TV, apparently, have never heard of the greatest footballer of all time, cocooned as they are in the parochial world of Australian rules, reduced to meet a team of Irish Gaelic footballers for its one taste of international flavour!

Is it any wonder, then, that Sydney will get the big match against England next year?

Melbourne will be incapable, and unwilling, to promote the game —

not Victorian soccer officials, but the general media on which they would have to depend.

Sydney, in contrast, could ensure maximum pre-match exposure, with the England stars — if they come, that is —

certain to be featured on all the major networks every day the Englishmen are in Australia.

The Sydney Football Stadium will, in fact, prove too small for the number of people who

would want to watch the game.

Melbourne, with far less media co-operation, would be lucky to get 30,000 — and that's being optimistic — at Olympic Park.

A note from enthusiast Walter de Ste Croix

Pelé and the international board could examine this suggestion

M. Pelé
Ambassador for Fair Play
FIFA
Zurich, Switzerland

Dear M Pelé,

I wonder if you remember my asking you at the Journalists' Club in Sydney about a bigger goal as a way to increase scoring?

You came to help us with the Australian Bicentennial Gold Cup in 1988, and addressed us at a luncheon.

Italia '90 has shown that

1) applying the Laws strictly is essential, and must now be carried on by all the National Associations if skill is to flourish again

2) well organised defences can cut scoring chances almost to zero without fouling attackers, mostly by weight of numbers in the 'last third' of the field, and

3) referees' and linesmen's decisions are far too influential in low-scoring games, generating great stress on officials and on players (which the media make worse).

I believe strikers have become pessimistic, hence negative and unsuccessful — partly because coaches demand work instead of flair with instinct, and mostly because of sheer lack of results (ie goals scored by themselves).

Psychotherapy will not cure that.

Being awarded penalty kicks is a terrible answer!

A change in the offside Law may help, and even bringing the



PELE

no offside area up to an 18 yard line across the pitch should do so; but I personally still think that a bigger target is the only solution to the problem that coaches will not be able to defeat.

The proposal of a large goal will need trials.

I recommend these be made in club competitions of the Oceania Confederation.

Australia and New Zealand have European-size players, good goalkeepers, reasonably competent referees and linesmen (for years urged by former National Referees Coach Leo Wilson and now by Doug Rennie to apply the Laws strictly).

There are few paying customers to lose from a change, and probably many to gain.

Visits by national teams and strong club sides could be subsidized by FIFA, and exposure to the trials can occur in mid-year round-robin competitions with FIFA referees.

By 1993 an optimum goal size can be established, and the experiment transferred after the 1994 World Cup finals to the USA, Scandinavia, Argentina and

or Brazil.

Surely the first consideration of a sporting body should be to ensure that the game is enjoyable.

At higher amateur and professional levels, and at many lower ones too, soccer isn't any longer enjoyed.

Even Brazil have concluded that discipline is a coach's first priority.

Italia '90 has proved that a team cannot win a tournament without as much discipline as skills.

So soccer has become like American (gridiron) football — the creation of coaches, not of players. Imagination is out!

Free the players from the shackles — make scoring goals easier.

We shall all thank FIFA, especially the referees in the first place.

With scorelines such as 5-5, or 7-3, cautions and send-offs may become as rare as they were in the 1950s.

And unless the referees enjoy their work, soccer will rapidly decline.

Here in Australia it is already very difficult to retain referees because of the stresses from low-scoring games.

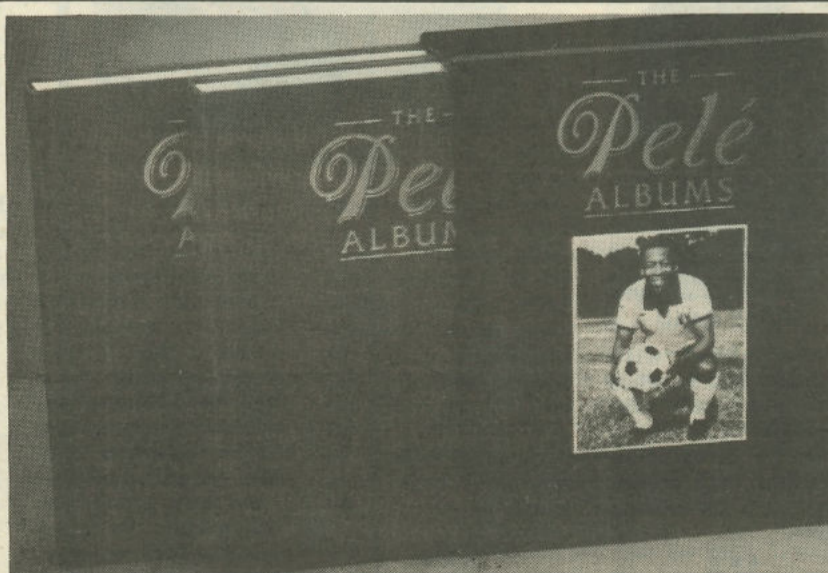
And one hates to see matches decided by a referee's or a linesman's decision, whether a right one, a doubtful one or a bad one.

I hope you are well, and still spreading your charm and wisdom around!

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Chit Chat ... Chit Chat ... Chit Chat

Former NSW and State League striker Glenn Fontana is the Wollongong Wolves youth coach. They don't come any keener than Glenn.

It seems that Heidelberg coach Len McKendry has a deal of respect for ex-Socceroo defender, Garry McDowall. They have been involved together with South Melbourne, Brunswick Juventus and Heidelberg.

Rod Brown, Apia's sniffer out of goals, has gone fulltime and is after a Socceroo spot. After a total knee reconstruction, the 26 year old star reckons it is now or never for his international aspirations.



ALAN HUNTER

After Parramatta Melita took over ex-Socceroo Alan Hunter for a \$2,750 loan fee and an option to buy at a further \$16,000, the big fellow faces six weeks inactivity with a stress fracture of his fibula.

Former Sydney Croatia defender David Rezo, now a free agent, is expected to sign for Melita this week after playing a couple of games in the Eagles' youth team.

Marconi coach Berti Mariani is reluctant to consider Young Socceroo Stephen Corica for his first team until he completes his commitments with the AIS at the end of the month. Corica spends all week in Canberra and only comes up to train on Fridays. Mariani, not surprisingly, believes Corica can only be considered for a first team berth once he trains regularly with his team-mates, starting next month.

The NSL office have dismissed St George's angry comments about referee John Fraser, who was in charge of their 2-2 draw with Heidelberg two weeks ago. Saints had asked the NSL never to appoint Fraser to their games again, but NSL

officials said last week that clubs cannot dictate who they can or cannot have and that referees do the best they can at all times.

New Sydney Croatia midfielder Gordon Scott's father, George, played for Brunswick Juventus some 20 years ago. Scott Jr, a former St Johnstone, East Fife and Hamilton Academicals player, has always wanted to do likewise, so when contacted by Willie Herd he was easily convinced to join Motherwell Falcons in the Victorian State League where he scored 12 goals despite a late season arrival. Sydney Croatia snared him to replace Graham Arnold and David Seal.

Former Apia, Sydney



ANDY KOCZKA

future by taking due note of the provisions of the far sighted Bradley Report.

First reports on the injury to Andy Koczka in the St George-Heidelberg game apparently overstated the position. It wasn't a break, even though the doctor and the ambulance men who attended him were inclined to think so. The Saints certainly need the good work of their popular skipper, who took a high tackle and ended up on crutches.

Paramatta Melita's Marshall Soper playing midfield? The mind boggles. But the big fellow has surely taken a new lease on life, slotting back when Hugo Gimenez was dismissed in the Apia game. He finally scored the winning goal six minutes into extra time — perhaps remembering that Apia was one of his former clubs.

They say that it represents a problem to be between a rock and a hard place, but Sydney Olympic's board has been unlucky enough to be in both situations at the one time. Whilst Abbas Saad is contracted to the club he is earning far, far more in Singapore than he could ever dare to



ABBAS SAAD

dream about with Olympic. And so, while goals are scarce with Olympic, it could be courting disaster to have him back at this stage as a dissatisfied player.

It is interesting to record that, with last season's profit of \$110,000, Sydney Olympic reduced its debt level to \$355,000. This was the club's best performance since 1981. Take a bow, George Pashalis and Co!

Young Derek Poimer is currently with Chelsea, as part of his five week spell sponsored by the Big Brother movement. Whilst there he will be able to get the drum from the Australian expatriates, England left-back Tony Dorigo and Socceroo striker, David Mitchell. Poimer, 16, was a Ku-ring-gai product who is now with Apia-Leichhardt's under 19 outfit.



JOHN McQUARRIE

John McQuarrie could be soon back in the Apia squad. The determined midfielder played on loan with Adamstown in the Newcastle competition during the winter. The club was on the losing end in the grand final and McQuarrie suffered an injury set back, from which he has just recovered.

The Australian Soccer Federation's meeting

to ratify the constitutional changes that flow from the Bradley Report will be held on Saturday, December 8. The changes will usher in a new era, which at last includes a modern management structure in keeping with the 1990s and the 20th century.

Referring to the Australian U17 Joeys, national coach Eddie Thompson said: "Our experience at the last final series in Scotland was that some of the kids had never been away before and they got homesick, others thought they were on holiday and just wanted to go shopping. "So this time we



EDDIE THOMSON

have given them a good look at what training camps are like — and now we'll take them on an overseas tour. It's something they have to cope with



STEVE SMITH

followed by the crucial qualifying competition in the New Zealand North Island city of Napier with the opponents being the host nation, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and possibly Vanuatu. The winner gets automatic entry to the finals in Ecuador in July.

Few players have had itchy feet to the extent that Vince Colagiuri has had. He has had spells with Apia and St George in the past, and in his younger days tried out in Italy. He has been searching unsuccessfully for a club in Europe since playing with Marconi in the last NSL season, and indeed tried out for Sheffield Wednesday in England. On his return found that the Fairfield outfit already had its quota of players. The chance came for him to join St George, and Marconi released him for a modest transfer fee.

Undoubtedly the unluckiest coach from the Oceania region at the moment is Doug Moore, who previously was in charge of the New Zealand Youth team. He arrived back in Kuwait to commence his fifth year as a coach there only a day prior to Iraqi president Saddam Hussein invading the country, and he is a reluctant guest of the invaders. Eddie Firmani, the former English and Italian star who became the manager of the New York Cosmos, is trapped in Baghdad.



Vince Colagiuri

North Geelong

VICTORIAN First Division side North Geelong, coached by former Rothmans gold medalist, Branko Culina, held its presentation night recently with the following results:

The Senior Best and Fairest Award went to reliable defender, Ivan Smoljko.

The runner-up trophy was shared by young striking sensation Adrian Cervinski and sweeper Steve Dimovski.

Most improved went to young Zdenko Sesar.

The results of the strong reserves squad coached by local legend Joe Malesic — winner of five consecutive Best and Fairest Awards with Corio — were as follows: Best and Fairest to tough defender Robert Heygesi, runner-up to striker Steve Perin and most determined to midfielder Ali Sailek.

All three players experienced a taste of senior soccer in the season past.

— VLADO VLAHOVIC

Apia Leichhardt was keen to bring Steve Smith up from Melbourne to improve its strike power, but he is booked to leave for a trip to England on December 12. Smith was topscorer in the Victorian winter State League, with 21 goals. He transferred to Brunswick from Preston for \$16,000 last April.

The excellent flood-lighting system at

if they want to be successful". Opposition in a probable eight-game program in Chile and Argentina later this month will include the Chilean national youth team and the youth sections of leading professional clubs. "This is only the second time we have been together as a squad and the emphasis has been on playing games and knitting together as a team." South America will be



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SOCCER SCENE

WITH ALAN CLARK



Cichanowski points to panel

AN independent panel could be up next season to determine just which teams form any Premier League of eight clubs in the 1992 Foundation State soccer season.

The status quo of First and Second Division looks sure to remain for next season.

But, with the majority of clubs in SA in favor of the need of restructuring the State competition, a premier competition of eight clubs seems certain to come in the year after.

The remainder of SA clubs then could be split into First and Second Division, North and South or whatever scenario was felt most satisfactory by the clubs themselves.

"If it was agreed there

should be a screening process to pick clubs to contest the top eight competition, it would be likely for an independent panel, without club interests, to be appointed to make such selection," said SA Soccer Federation chairman, Alex Cichanowski.

TWO of Adelaide City's star turns, Joe Mullen and Neville Flounders, find themselves on the outer of the present set-up. But coach Zoran Matic claims they are not out of his plans. "Mullen has come to terms with a motivation problem, said Matic, "but a good player like him does not become a bad player overnight. "Neville is 33 and is behind young Chris White as the next defender to come into the side." But Matic said Flounders could help in coaching at the club.

★ ★ ★

The most likely selection screening would be on a points system, based on next season's results, the results of the previous five years, supporter and administration base, junior development and facilities.

The Council of Clubs in March next year is likely

to be called on to approve the setting up of a revamped competition for 1992.

There is not time or provision for that to be implemented before next season though clubs have shown in principle they are in favor of restructure.



JOE MULLEN

PLAYER of the Year, Robert Marwe has given Para Hills, a boost by signing with the club for the next two seasons. Marwe will be a big asset to coach Martyn Crook.

★ ★ ★

ZORAN Maricic has been confirmed as Port Adelaide coach for next season. He was chosen at last week's annual meeting. George Sromcabich is the new chairman. He was elected in place of Len Alagich who has decided to "have a little rest." Gene Lomman is secretary and Bill Koulocheris treasurer. Hellas president Michael Aronis



MICHAEL ARONIS

had submitted an application for the position of Port chairman but did not front up.

★ ★ ★

ADELAIDE City striker Steve Maxwell should play his 200th NSL game on Sunday against Preston at Hindmarsh Stadium. Socceroo Alex Tobin reached his 150th against Apia.



STEVE MAXWELL

★ ★ ★
MIKE Wells has left Adelaide to take up his new role as national director of coaching position in Sydney. Wells is part of the new administrative and technical team which officials hope will put Australia firmly on the soccer map. SA wishes him well. Talks are going on to find his replacement as general manager in SA. Meanwhile, former Salisbury chief Jack Innes is the chairman of the First Division management committee.

★ ★ ★

Saturday, November 17 is D-day for Adelaide Hellas. Club elections will be held then.

★ ★ ★

Whyalla City's Stuart Faulds is the Northern Areas Soccer Association Player of the Year.

He received the Addis Memorial Medal in a gala presentation evening on Saturday in Whyalla.

Cousin Scott Faulds,

of Whyalla Croatia, won the reserves best with Rookie of the Year being Mathew Cade, of Westlands.

Winners were announced by MC of the Year, Jimmy Lawrence, from Liverpool.

★ ★ ★

FORMER national high schools chief Steve Deheleanu will lead amateur side Tea Tree Gully next season. Former State players Eric Norman and Peter Stanczak also will lead non-Federation sides. Norman is with Rostrevor while Stanczak is in charge at Parafield Gardens.

★ ★ ★

FANS seeking scoreboard advice at Hindmarsh will have to look elsewhere. The giant scoreboard on the eastern side of the ground has been moved to the northern terracing. It had to go to make way for the proposed redevelopment of the eastern area. That update has been deferred but, in the interests of long-term planning, the board went anyway.

Trio Heads Overseas.

A trio of talent is gearing to take South Australian soccer to the world.

Star Salisbury duo Mathew Coutouvidis and Heath Robertson head for Argentina and the AIS respectively.

And Hellas starlet John Pires goes on a trip of a lifetime later this month — to learn the game from one of the world's greatest players.

Adelaide High School boy Pires heads for Portugal to trial for Benfica and Porto.

In his stay at Benfica Pires will come under the guidance of legendary Eusebio and Jose Augusto, both stars of Benfica sides in the club's mid-sixties heydeys.

"If nothing else, John will have a chance to learn from

some of the greatest players there have ever been," said his father Jose.

"We shall have to see how it goes but it is a great opportunity for him."

Coutouvidis, 15, leaves SA on November 18 for a trip with the Joeys to Argentina and Chile. With him will be Adelaide Hellas goalkeeper, George Karamalis.

"I'm really excited about the prospects", said Coutouvidis, a Gawler High School boy, who plays in the centre of defence.

"I've been in two camps in Canberra with Les Scheinflug, who is the coach on the tour. He is very strict but very good".

Coutouvidis has represented SA at under 12, and captained the under 14 and under 15 teams.

Last season he played in juniors and reserves in the Foundation SA League.

Robertson, 16, is keen to develop his game at Australia's school of soccer excellence in Canberra.

A midfielder, who, even at his tender age, managed to fit in five senior games last season with Salisbury, is looking forward to the experience.

"I'm pleased to be getting this chance", said Robertson. I've already been there for a week and really enjoyed it. Ron Smith seems a very good coach".

Robertson has been at Steve Jarvis Park for the past two seasons and has played in juniors and reserves as well as his first team games.

Salisbury coach Bob Wincer said his club were thrilled for the youngsters.

"It's the start of a very exciting period in their soccer careers", he said.

"To achieve the next step in their development they will have to work hard, if not harder, than they have so far".

"There are four areas for their development — improving basic skills a notch or two; raising their game in fitness and strength; improving their knowledge and understanding of soccer; developing their own attitude and self-discipline".

"They are going into a game for men. But they have shown that they are prepared to work and we wish them well".

1995 World Cup a long term goal for Women's Youth squad

BY GRAHAM COOKE



Members of the Australian women's youth squad, in camp at the Australian Institute of Sport. Head coach Jim Selby is at bottom right with assistant Peter Kelly top left. Picture courtesy The Canberra Times.

THE national Women's Youth Championship will be moved from July to September to make it easier to arrange international opposition, Australian Women's Soccer Association executive director, Heather Reid, says.

"We will be sticking with the present dates next season, but the championship will be held in September, 1992 with the aim of selecting and preparing a team for a tour the following July," she said.

Her comments came after national youth coach Jim Selby said it was difficult to motivate players who did not have specific targets.

Selby, whose squad completed a five-day Australian Institute of Sport camp earlier this week, said all his players had been asked to fill out a questionnaire stating their aims and objectives in soccer.

"The answers centred on wanting to make the senior side and to be part of the squad for the 1995 World Cup — that is fine for the long term, but they also need some short-term goals to sustain them," he said.

Selby said it was noticeable the squad members had done little in the way of fitness work since the club season ended in mid-September.

"If this camp had been for the purpose of making the final selections for a touring party there would have been greater incentives."

He had been astonished at the progress made by many of the players during the camp.

"It is hard to believe the improvement has come in just five days — there would not be one person in the squad who is not a better player."

On the whole, female soccer players compared themselves unfavourably with sports such as swimming, tennis and athletics and the camp had helped to raise their self-esteem.

Asked for the success stories of the camp, he named the ACT pair of Sacha Wainwright and Alex Focken, and Lisa Turnbull, Tracey Bartlett and Jane Hornsby, all from NSW.

"But I would also like to mention Lee-Ann Priest from Tasmania. No-one has worked harder and no-one has learnt more."

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A five man block of defenders

BY MIKE JOHNSON

The whiff of linament and lush green turf beckoned for offence

THE Heidelberg players were mostly only half-changed as I walked through their dressing room looking for their coach, Len McKendry.

It was 6.20pm on Sunday night at St George stadium where Heidelberg were due to play St George at 7pm.

Len was outside on the pitch, and as I walked through the dressing room with its feeling of tension, and smell of linament and onto the lush green turf, it felt for a second or two like stepping years ago onto a stadium to play in England.

One looked up at the large grandstand filling up with people.

The people were much less in number, but still the feeling was there.

Len was talking to Tony Brown, who previously was his assistant coach at South Melbourne Hellas and at Brunswick Juventus.

Tony was my assistant last year, and this year coached NSW State League 4th Division Arncliffe to 1st place.

Tony is a very good coach.

So also is Rene Lillo, a Chilean who took over from Tony Brown this year with us and won the second team competition by a mile.



LEN MCKENDRY

The standards set in a sporting nation like Australia are high and this includes the coaching of soccer, where coaches, along with players at the higher levels, put a massive

input into the game, on top of their day-time jobs.



FRANK AROK

McKendry was agitated.

"He always is just before a game," said Tony Brown.

Heidelberg and Saints were both running at a point a game and neither could afford a slip-up if they were to keep in touch with the leaders.

The players obviously knew this and its implications, which explained the tension in the Heidelberg dressing room.

Saints have a pretty good bunch of players this year and Frank Arok will be expecting a lot more from them than does the general media.

As Len, Tony and myself chatted on the touchline, along came Frank Arok. He smiled, "welcome to the circus", then continued on his way.

The previously highly intense Arok seems almost relaxed these days.

He appears to be aware of what he has achieved at St George and with the national team, and has a composure and confidence that did not show before.

So many good things have happened at St George during his time.

The latest is the club's

apprentice scheme now rather grandly called the 'Sydney Academy of Soccer', into which he puts an early session each morning when others of his vintage are going for their early morning stroll.

Professionalism

St George BSC truly is beginning to resemble a European club as one looks at its stadium with its large grandstand which houses the trophy room, board room, dressing rooms and offices.

Outside are the floodlit training fields, now being upgraded.

It has two professional teams, then the 'Academy' team, each with their own coach, plus the very effective goalkeeping expert Fred Wall.



ANGIE GOUTZOULIS

Additionally, there is a general manager, Tony Balaszi.

Also the excellent, meticulous Richard Alagich is breaking new ground as overseer of the junior academy.

As one talked with Len McKendry on the touchline, he mentioned that in 10 years coaching in the National League he had been under 11 presidents.

Arok in that time has mainly been employed by one boss, Alex Pongrass, aided by Les Boidacs, although the club is now a private enterprise.

There is a lesson there for those clubs which have struggled for stability throughout their existence.

The game in the first half was poor, with St George not prepared to push players forward and Heidelberg not able to breach a five man Saints defence.

This is the tactical trend in Soccer, but it also is easily used

following the success of West Germany in the World Cup.

Teams are using a sweeper behind two stoppers and two full backs, producing a five man block of players.

I do not like it. And did not like it with West Germany which was flattered in their two early high scoring games against the Arab Emirates and Yugoslavia.

The Arab team was quite weak and the Yugoslav goalkeeper gifted the Germans with three of their goals.

After that the Germans' ponderous power play was predictable, and not good to watch.

Teams in Australia, as well as around the world are copying the tactic.

St George and Wollongong Macedonia are just two teams using it in the NSL.

Copying is hardly the right word for

Arok's use of the strategy.

He used the formation for several years with the national team, beginning with its draw against England in 1983.

It is no coincidence that Saints and Wollongong Macedonia have played many draws this season.

The formation can allow scope for much attacking especially from the back five but this depends on the type of players playing there and the attitude of the coach in releasing them forward.

The two full-backs are very important in producing wide attacking play, especially crossing into tall strikers.

The left-back for Wollongong Macedonia is the most effective of all those using this type of formation, he reads well opportunities to get forward and crosses very well.

So this current trend does give much scope for attack, especially quick counter attack, but it also is easily used



to stop the opposition attacking — a thought process that seems prevalent among modern coaches.

The St George-Heidelberg game did not come alive until Saints went a goal down in the 58th minute.

From that time, Saints pushed back men forward constantly with sweeper Andy Kozcka brilliant in attack during this period and Craig Moffitt in the penalty box for almost the first time in the game.

Moffitt equalised from just inside the box at 62 minutes after four minutes of non-stop St George attack.

Six minutes later, at the 70th minute, as Saints continued their almost total domination of the midfield Tony Krslovic put saints 2-1 up.

Predictably, St George then eased their attacking and allowed Heidelberg back into the game.

A headed Heidelberg goal from a set play in injury time was the end result of this change in attacking emphasis.

A tragic injury to skipper Kozcka, now defending was a double blow for Saints.

McKendry was jubilant.

A point makes the Ansett Airlines coffee on the way home to Melbourne taste much nicer than does an away loss.

In a game where good, honest players abounded on the night, with Angie Goutzoulis and Phil Stubbins a touch above the rest, the striking down of its one class outfield player was a tragedy for Australian soccer and for this young man.

Fortunately he is young.

His body will recover.

It is in the mind where Andy must fight his battle.

It is not what happens to you but how you take it. Kozcka is an outstanding player, with an outstanding temperament.

His injury is not as bad as first thought and he is recovering quickly.



AIS held by Olympic in Canberra

BY PAUL GOODWIN

ROUND six of the Northern Division of the NSL Youth League began with a thrill a minute encounter between the AIS and Sydney Olympic in Canberra on Saturday evening, which resulted in a 1-1 draw.

The local youngsters had the better of the first half, but could not break through and it wasn't until the 60th minute that the AIS hit the lead.

A ball in behind the Olympic defence reached Ise Kuplesovski who slipped it on to Nick Radecki, for a tidy finish by the striker.

Olympic enjoyed a better second half and fought back to level through an unmarked Pablo Cardozo at the near post following a corner in the 70th minute.

Torrential rain did not stop the players excelling in the last 15 minutes and both goals had narrow escapes.

An Olympic free kick went through the wall from 25 metres, but hit the keeper's legs, while at the other end another Radecki shot was cleared off the line.

St George's under 19 team beat Marconi 7-3 at Barton Park and raced to a 4-1 half time lead in the process.

They nearly paid dearly for some second half complacency, before coach Dez Mar-ton rang the changes and restored some steel into the defence.

Shaun Freestone opened the account in the 15th minute and Daryl Ziaderman made it 2-0 in the 21st.

Marconi pulled one back through Ivan Topic, but further goals for the home side, one an own goal and the other by John Kakakios made it a three goal cushion at the break.

Mistakes early in the second half led to Marconi pulling back to 4-3 thanks to goals by Mario Gonzales, after a misdirected pass by Steve Hickman, and by Gabriel Lopez from the penalty spot.

Saints then scored three more to wrap it all up, Adam Ciantar, Ziaderman and full-back Elias Augerinos, his first for the side, doing the honours.

Apia Leichhardt and Highfields Azzurri played a 2-2 draw on Sunday at Lambert Park, with the visitors unable to capitalise on a greater share of possession.

David Batten was the Apia star, with two fine goals, both set up by the dynamic Hassan Kdouh.

The first in the 50th enabled Apia to draw level and cancel out a



HUGO GIMINEZ

23rd minute effort by Highfield's Ricky Bucci.

The second of Batten's goals put Apia in front in the 58th, but Keiran Harris put his side back on terms in the 70th and the Newcastle club's goalie Lee Archer must take a lot of the credit for keeping the homieside at bay.

Sydney Croatia and the Sydney Academy of Soccer were scoreless at halftime in the game at the Croatian Sports Centre.

Sydney Croatia scored the only goal of the game after 77 minutes when Peter Vilic dispossessed Andrew Dowling on the half-way mark and set sail for goal.

Despite being forced wide, he managed to tuck a low shot under Sydney Academy goalkeeper, Dragan Pupovac.

The Academy team should have been first to break the ice in the 68th minute when Mario German was bundled off the ball in the penalty area, but missed with his penalty attempt.

There were few shots on goal in a rather disappointing encounter.

At Adamstown Oval a more mature Parramatta Melita side defeated the home team 3-0 with goals by Adam Sandersan, an own goal, Marshall Soper a header in the 57th minute and Carlos Tapia in the 70th.

Adamstown Rosebuds were unfortunate to concede the own goal late in the first half, and, to add to their woes Con Safouris missed a penalty.

It was a learning experience for the decidedly youthful local side, which includes one 14-year-old and many 16-year-olds.

The visitors had the luxury of experienced players like Hugo Giminez and Soper.

Adamstown, still without a point, face local rivals Highfields Azzurri at Whitebridge Soccer Oval next Sunday, in what should prove to be a fascinating derby.

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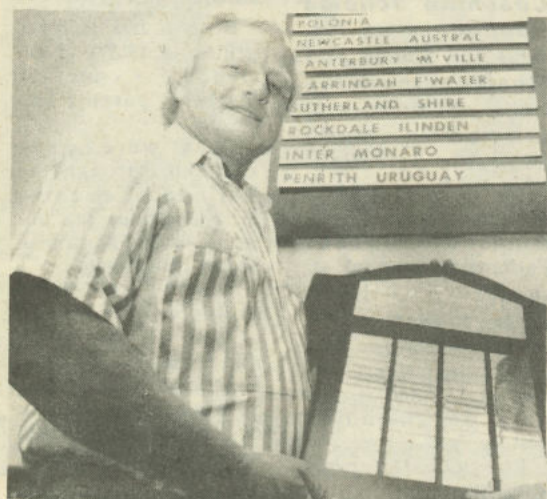
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KULCSAR CONTINUES CANBERRAN EXODUS

BY GRAHAM COOKE



MIRKO SKRNJUG

CANBERRA Soccer Club captain George Kulcsar has bought out his contract in pursuit of a career overseas.

Canberra's soccer director, Mirko Skrnjug, said the \$3000 fee had been paid "and unfortunately he is now free to go where he wishes".

Skrnjug regards the loss of the commanding midfielder, runner-up in the 1990 NSW Player of the Year vote, as a body blow to Canberra's hopes of winning the NSW League next season.

"He is a true professional, a player of exceptional quality and one who I have always enjoyed a good relationship with," he said.

"Of course, we cannot compete with the resources of European teams — all we can do is wish him well."

Kulcsar telephoned teammate and friend Peter Gunning to say he had made a good impression with Belgian first-division side Antwerp.

"He has already signed a preliminary contract which, in effect, gives Antwerp first refusal on his services," Gunning said.

"They have refunded him the cost of his airfare to Europe, found him a place to stay and promised him a car. Apparently, he has played in a couple of reserve games and performed well in both."

Kulcsar will have plenty of company should he sign for the Belgians, with Frank Farina, Jason Polak, and Eddie Krncevic already established with other clubs in the country.

Meanwhile, goalkeeper Gunning himself has left Canberra for Sydney to take up a position with accounting firm Arthur Anderson and to try and break into the Quit National League.

"I've been in touch with (Sydney Olympic coach) Mick Hickman

and he is very keen, so I will be going along to their training sessions as soon as possible," he said.

"Obviously, it's going to be an uphill battle with Clint Gosling so well established there. But their other keeper, Gary Meier, is in the veteran stage now, so I've a good chance of eventually getting the No 2 berth."

"There are no guarantees, just an opportunity of showing I am good enough for a National League club."

With Gunning and Kulcsar joining the exodus already begun by Ned Zelic (Sydney Croatia) and Jason Dunn (Wollongong Macedonia), Canberra will be thankful of at least one potential recruit.

Elvis Bakic has arrived from Yugoslavia, unannounced and untested, but plans to trial with the club when training begins in December.

Speaking through an interpreter, he described himself as an attacking midfielder from Croatian second-division side Zadar.

"I have come here because there is not enough work in Yugoslavia, where I was a driver, and I want to make something of my life," he said.

For the moment, at least, there will be no work for him here either as he is only on a month's visa which does not allow him to seek employment — "but I am hoping to get that changed."

Turning 23 in December, he excited the interest of Wollongong Macedonia coach John Fleming after a couple of training sessions but decided to move on to Canberra.

And he is not particularly impressed with his first look at QNSL soccer — the recent game between Sydney Croatia and Marconi.

"I didn't think they were fit enough and both clubs could have done with a good player in the middle," he said.

ACT BRIEFS

• While newcomers to the ACT first division have usually struggled to establish themselves in the three seasons since automatic promotion and relegation began, Downer Olympic plans to be the exception.

Indications are that the committee of the second-division champion plans to provide a budget which could take the club back to the leading position it occupied in ACT soccer during the 1970s and early 1980s.

Sources close to the club indicate that negotiations are under way with some of the leading players in the area and that announcements can be expected shortly.

• ACT Senior League chairman Don Rushan has confirmed that The Canberra Times Trophy series between the ACT and Illawarra League representative teams will be resumed next season.

The long-running series went into recess in 1988 and 1989 before being partially revived in 1990 with a match at youth level.

"It is planned that the next game, at both youth and senior level, be played in October 1991 in Wollongong with the series reverting to its traditional Queen's Birthday Monday date in Canberra the following season," he said.

— GRAHAM COOKE

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Queensland Futsal titles a big hit

FROM BOB CORBETT

A total of 142 games involving 62 teams competed in the Queensland State Futsal titles, held in Brisbane from November 2/4.

Results of the grand finals were: Men's:

Barry Davis to coach at Blacktown

WELL known Sydney coach Barry Davis has been appointed Director of Coaching for the Blacktown and District Soccer Football Association.

He is not, as was recorded last week, with the Mt Pritchard Sports Club.

At Blacktown he will be in overall charge of coaching, and will supervise the coaches involved with the Youth League and Metropolitan Representative squads.

Davis said: "I am receiving all the co-operation I need from the Association, and particularly from secretary, Jack Taylor."

And, by the way, "Coaching Overview", edited by Davis, has some excellent articles coming up to interest coaches and managers at all levels.

The publication has vastly increased circulation in recent months.

Contact point for subscription copies is NSW Coaching Federation president, Vince Balzan, on 639 1093 (H).

Cavaliers 3g, 4 pen, Johnnys' Boys 3g, 3 pen. Women's: Bayside RCS 1 Pine River Pandas 0, Youth: Bayside Hellas 4 Rocky 1, U16: Pine Rivers 2 Steelers 1, U14: Logan Cavaliers 3 Windaroo 2, U12 Cavaliers 3 Mt Gravatt 0, U11: Raiders 3 Spartans 2.

State teams were selected in the various age groups, with the following players receiving honours.

Under 11: Trent Scott, Wayne Andrews, Jamie Derrick, Bradley McKendrick, Jason Wood, Craig Dean, Steven Miranda, Cameron Walsh, Chris Colley, Trent Davidson, Michael Dain, Andrew Lock, Daniel Smith.

Soccer rules revolution

Talking of revolution, veteran reader Mr CV Stevenson, of Cumberland Park, does not believe larger goals would add to the overall attraction of soccer.

As a former player from his school days to his early 40s, Mr Stevenson wants to see the offside rule changed but not scrapped.

"I would like to see a line drawn across from the penalty area and you could not be offside outside that," wrote Mr Stevenson.

"This would allow two thirds of the pitch always to be in play. The game would flow better and would create many more scoring chances."

"That, I am sure, would bring about more goals we all want to see and would make life easier for referees and linesmen."

Sounds like an idea with merit. Over to you, soccer bosses!

Under 12: Benjamin George, Andrew Missen, Brendan Johnstone, Troy Anderson, A.Gordon, S.Fisher, T.Nguyen, R.Zirw, E.Parsiterns, D. Gleeson, R.Wandshneider, D.Conquest, S.Davidson, M.Rooney, Ngou But, Clint Scott, Matthew Hill, Wayne Derrick.

Under 14: M.Zocchi, R.Meredith, D.Elkington, S.Jimenez, Neil Davenport, Alistair McClure, Trent Watson, Mark Barrick, Lincoln Conquest, Ross Davidson, Alistair McLean, Brenden Freeman, R.Duffy, Sean Gearthy.

Under 16: Graeme McKinnon, Steve Levitt, Michael Grazier, Simon Kalaba, Scott Moran, Dean Svensson, Ian Gebles, C.Stahihut, Aaron McKie, Andrew Lutham, Mark Bliss, Robert Leck, Vaughan Hindley, Gavin van Gough, Brett Hand, Paul Schloss, Fred Baxter, B.Schick.

Youth: Ross Smart, Mathew Bettridge, Jason Wyer, Richard Buckle, Lance Laphorn, Terry Lucas, Steve Davis, Richard Littler, Sean

Geraghty, Richard Eslick, Perry Zernagis, Steve Konstanio, John Pappas, Juan Vilches, John Weatherby, Adam Longa-gon, Undo Ruff, Sean McAney, Darren Kuhler, A.Stahihut.

Men's: Grant Beevers, Chris Norton, Jeff Hopkins, Rod England, K.Cooper, Neil Olive, R.Allen, W.Corbett, Geoff Maltby, John Fig, A.Catalano, D.Ivice, E.Castabellio, M.King, N.McClure, P.Crowsott, B.Melville, Jason Raikaki, Darren Pullen, M.Boyd.

Under 19 Women: Kylie Ticehurst, Jackie Page, Gloria Burnell, Amanda Williams, Zoe Smith, Janette Sitton, Kylie Sheehan, Liz Bateman, Michelle Bentick, Cathy O'Neill, Helen Potchery.

Open Women: Leanne Bone, Kaye O'Sullivan, Miarga Rasenovic, Sue Clayton, Kim Patterson, Leonie Yow Yeu, Tracey Diprose, Raeanne Dower, Tanya Corbett, Melissa Soppa, Kalene Jensen, Angia Vaneyk, Maria Humphreys, Teresa Cronin, Sharon Elsdridge, Katerina Pulogrenti, Christine Cummins.

NSL YOUTH LEAGUES Round 5

as at 4.11.90

NORTHERN DIVISION

Sydney Croatia 2 (French, Popovic) Wollongong Macedonia 0, St George 0 AIS 1 (Corica), S.A.S. 0 Sydney Olympic 0, Apia Leichhardt 1 (Cosentino 11) Melita Eagles 3 (Martinich 19, Aravena 56, Hunter 75), Wollongong City 1 (Williams) Marconi 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Aust. Institute	4	0	0	10	3	8	
St George BSC	5	3	1	1	1	5	7
Melita Eagles	4	3	0	1	7	3	6
Highfields	4	3	0	1	8	5	6
Sydney Olympic	5	2	2	1	5	3	6
Wollongong C.	5	2	1	2	4	8	5
Sydney Croatia	4	2	0	2	5	3	4
Marconi	4	2	0	2	5	6	4
S.A.S.	4	1	1	2	4	4	3
Apia Leichhardt	4	1	0	3	4	7	2
Wollongong M.	5	0	1	4	1	0	1
Adamstown	4	0	0	4	7	14	0

SOUTHERN DIVISION Round 5

South Melbourne Hellas 1

(Tzamouranis) Geelong City 1 (Rakic), Melbourne Croatia Colts 1 (Ivelja) Altona Gate 2 (Trajkovski, Stojcevski), Sunshine George Cross 3 (Cattermole 2, Zacharias) Adelaide City 3 (Guastella 2, Talladira), Northcote City 0 Caulfield City 1 (Alikakos), Preston Makedonia 3 (Bekiaris, Nanov, Emsovski) Melbourne Croatia 0, Brighton 3 (Mamoutopoulos, Nickas, Tsoukalas) Springvale City 0, South Melbourne Hellas Colts 1 (Ireland) Heidelberg United 1 (Papadopoulos).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Adelaide City	5	4	1	0	17	5	9
Preston Mak	5	4	1	0	12	1	9
Sunshine GC	5	4	1	0	15	6	9
SMH	5	2	2	1	8	4	6
Heidelberg	5	2	2	1	4	3	6
Caulfield	5	2	2	1	7	8	6
Altona Gate	5	2	1	2	7	5	5
SMH Colts	5	2	1	2	7	10	5
Melb. Croatia	5	2	0	3	10	10	4
Brighton	5	2	0	3	4	5	4
Geelong City	5	1	1	3	6	12	3
Northcote City	5	1	0	4	5	11	2
Springvale	5	0	1	4	2	11	1
Melb. Cr Colts	5	0	1	4	3	14	1

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Continuous progress evident in Australian women's football

BY WALTER PLESS

THERE has been a quiet revolution in women's soccer in Australia since Steve Darby took over as national coach.

Some positive developments have been:

- the national team was unbeaten in Japan, a country that is ranked third in Asia and which has a fully professional team;
- the national team plays on a competitive basis against quality men's teams;
- two players have obtained professional contracts in Denmark;
- three players have been offered the opportunity to play in a men's league;
- one player will become the first paid player-coach of a women's team next year;
- the national captain is employed as a full-time development officer by the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation;
- top coaches are doing sessions with the national squad. They include Eddie Thomson, Les Scheinflug, Raul Blanco, Ron Smith, Steve O'Connor, Gary Cole and Tom Sermanni;

The AWSA has a five-year national coaching plan which means quality level 3 accredited coaches are attracted to national teams — coaches such as Jim Selby and Chris James;

- members of the national squad have all undertaken the level 2 coaching course;
- members of the national squad have undertaken long term fitness programmes developed by the AIS and two players are considered to be of an elite male standard and six are of an elite female standard.

"I can't take credit for all these developments and, in reality, the only thing that counts is performance on the pitch," Darby said.

"The players in the national squad are a pleasure to work with.

"They love the game, work hard and are making great improvements in technique.

"I treat them exactly the same as the ACT men's team, which I also coached.

Darby believes it is important he continues to coach quality men's teams as this keeps him sharp as a coach.

Two recent draws by the ACT against Charlton Athletic and an Indonesian side are testimony to this.

"I coach the women's national team almost on an honorary basis and it's very time-consuming if the job is done properly," Darby said.

"I lost all my leave from work last year be-



STEVE DARBY

cause of national team duty, and I spent a lot of time in the evenings writing fitness programmes and contacting players in person."

Darby acknowledges he is fortunate to have good staff around him.

These include Dr Kieran Fallon, physiotherapist Andrew Young, and president Denis O'Brien, who has provided tremendous support.

Darby is convinced that if women's soccer is to continue to develop, it must be run on a professional basis at state level.

"One only has to see the improvement in the running of NSW soccer since Kym-Maree Field took over," he said.

"The players are the true indication of her work as they are enthusiastic about their State and have gained in prestige and self-esteem."

Darby believes that while the AWSA should keep its own identity, it is economically and logistically sensible to forge close links at the state level with men's soccer.

"It would be great to see if Australia could emulate Italy, where the top sides such as AC Milan have a female side which attracts crowds of 20,000 a game," he said.

"It would be an economic boost to clubs like Marconi if they had a serious, elite female side.

"Raul Blanco at Melita Eagles deserves praise for starting this sort of initiative.

"If you think of the long-term strategies for the game, if more women play and watch the game, the more likely it is they will encourage their children to play.

"And, 90 per cent of primary school teachers are female and the school is a major influence in a child's life.

"If Miss says you should play soccer, then you've a good chance you will, and we won't lose kids to league and

rules."

Darby's reign as national coach ends following the first FIFA World Cup for women's teams in China.

He believes the AWSA must immediately begin to identify and groom a pool of accredited female coaches who have played at national level, in order to have replacements ready to start the 1995 campaign.

He believes present national players with coaching ability, people such as McPhee, Tann, Oakley, Dodd and Sawyers, should be taken on as apprentices to national coaches so they may learn on the job.

"We never stop learning," Darby said. "Whenever the national squad goes into camp, I go in with Thommo, Lee and Raul and watch them work.

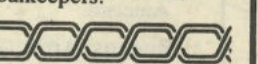
"Everyone has their own coaching style, but it's essential as a coach that you don't stagnate.

"You must be prepared to look at others.

"I have recently done goalkeeping work with Jeff Oliver, John Filan, Frank Talia and Steve Mautone. It's great being a goalkeeper as there is always a willingness to share ideas.

"Jeff showed me a couple of great practices which he copied from Brazil's Taffarel.

"I then put his ideas into goalkeeping courses and have used some of them when working with the Joey's goalkeepers."



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Failures are heroes

FROM NSW DIRECTOR OF COACHING,
DAVID LEE

SUNBURN, sore feet, aching muscles, damaged joints and a piece of paper stating, that you have failed to attain the pass mark.

This is the lot of those participating in coaching courses who do not quite reach the qualification mark.

They receive the certificate to possibly soften the blow, but they are the real heroes.

Given the job of coaching the kids and teenagers, they quickly identify that "To Benefit The Kids" they need to know more so that they can pass on more, and make life more interesting for their bunch of eager beavers.

They possibly know deep down, that with their background they

stand very little chance of passing, but still they come to put themselves through six days of sheer hell.

Compare them to the ten of fifteen percent who fail to turn up or drop out after day one.

Or even worse, those who have played the game who say "they don't need to go to a coaching course" and push on with their limited knowledge playing and no knowledge of teaching.

There are no failures on a coaching course.

Those who suffer to benefit others, are the real successes.

Fred Bones tribute

FRED Bones commenced his association with soccer in 1963 with Forest Soccer Football Club in the Manly Warringah SFA, which saw him hold many positions on that club mittee before joining Wakehurst.

In 1974 he became President of the MWSA and held the position for five years till 1978, when he stood down and assisted a new President as Senior Vice President.

In 1979 he was Secretary and reverted back to Senior Vice President in 1980.

During this time he was delegate to the Sydney Branch and NSWASF and later became Secretary of the Sydney Branch, and was awarded Life Membership of that organisation.

Fred continued to be involved in the Association as a Life Member and had a great influence on how this Association's future was to progress.

In 1988, when the Association was going through a slump in enthusiasm, Fred could see what was happening to his beloved Manly Warringah, and decided that something had to be done to resurrect the old spirit of the Association, and ran for President again.

He was overwhelmingly accepted back into the fold by all members and proceeded to stamp his style of leadership on the Association.

Everyone associated with Fred in that year and the years up to 1990 has benefited by his renewed enthusiasm soccer in Manly Warringah and especially

the Manly Warringah Soccer Association incorporated.

His untiring work will never be forgotten by those who are close to him, in their efforts to make soccer Manly



Warringah's number 1 sport, and of course NSW.

In his years of involvement in soccer, Fred was a qualified referee for many years, he was also a founding member of the Manly Warringah District Soccer Club, and recently, along with the position of President of this Association was also on the Board of Directors of the Licensed Club and Soccer Club.

Manly Warringah have been extremely honoured to have a man like Fred working for soccer in Australia, and although no-one is indispensable, Fred and his input into soccer will be hard to replace.

National Coaching scheme handbooks

LARGE quantities of The National Coaching Scheme Handbooks on Fitness for Soccer and Goalkeeping have been obtained and are being made available at ridiculously low prices from the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation so that all may have access to them.

The Fitness for Soccer Manual was available at \$18 and is now only \$5 including postage.

The Goalkeepers

Handbook was priced at \$10 and is now only \$4 including postage.

Both manuals were written in 1989 and designed for coaches, teachers, parents and players.

They were made available through the National Coaching Scheme under the auspices of the Australian Soccer Federation.

Copies are available exclusively from the office of the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation at P.O. Box 84 Toongabbie 2146 or by phoning (02) 629-2833 for credit card purchase.

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North West	BRIAN BOGGS	Tamworth High	067 657888 (S)
New England	BILL SCHOFIELD	Armidale High	067 727466 (S)

*Lindsay Hewison, Muirfield High absent in Europe.

1990 NSW CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS



St Marys Band Club — U9 Runners-up



Menai — U10 Runners-up



East Bankstown — U11 Runners-up



Marconi — U12 Runners-up



Mt.Pritchard — U13 Runners-up



Apia — U14 Runners-up.



St.Marys — U15 Runners-up



Abruzzi — U16 Runner-up



Canterbury Jnr — U17 Womens Runners-up



Revesby Milperra — U17 Runner-up

TEAM PHOTOS
BY COURTESY
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Europatour 'wonderful'



Juniors in action in the Riverina. There are many keen youngsters in Wagga Wagga — Photo: Wagga Photographics.

IT was a weary Europatour squad that arrived home in Wagga Wagga, NSW after an extensive tour of Europe, Scandinavia and the United Kingdom.

During their five-week tour, the team played 13 matches with a five win, six draw record.

The co-ordinator Robert Harris said it had been "wonderful" and all who participated gained a great deal from the experience.

"Everything went well, we were well received everywhere we went," he said.

"It was a complete change of lifestyle to what the boys were used to.

"The cultural differences were significant, there were no major hassles, even the language barrier."

Between matches, the tourists assumed the role of sightseers and celebrities in towns they visited.

"The boys were great ambassadors and acquitted themselves very well throughout the entire tour," said coach Greg Pearson.

The initial game was very tough but the next match saw a marked improvement.

The tourists lost their first match 10-0 but defeated a Cardiff outfit 5-0 in Wales in the final match of the tour.

"Defeating Cardiff was one of the highlights of the trip, football wise," said Pearson.

"We also beat a Leicestershire side which was selected from half-a-million possible kids; that was a great achievement.

"The Cardiff team hadn't been beaten in six games before we beat them."

The team played matches in Italy, Switzerland, France, England, Wales and both the old Germanys.

"We were on the

East German border the night the border came down," Pearson revealed.

The tourists were guests of honour at numerous civic receptions during the tour and created interest in each town visited.

Several clubs that competed against the Wagga team have expressed interest in bringing a team to play in Wagga.

"Everyone made special friendships on

the trip and some families said they will be coming to visit Wagga in the future," said Mr Harris.

"Thanks should go to those who made the tour happen, the sponsors for supporting us.

"We were very well received everywhere we went, which is a credit to the boys, who didn't waste their opportunities and took it all in," Mr Harris added.

Socrates snapped up by Japanese soccer

BY WALTER PLESS

SOCRATES, the former captain of Brazil, will play in a South America versus Europe match in Tokyo next Saturday.

The Tokai World Masters Soccer '90 match kicks off in the National Stadium at 1pm Tokyo time and will be transmitted live across Japan on both television and radio.

The South American team is: Junior, Batista, Leandro, Zico, Socrates, Edinho, Waldir Perez (Brazil), Jose Luis Brown, Alberto Tarantini, Mario Kempes, Juan Barbas (Argentina), Barbadillo (Peru), Roger Flores, Gabelo Conejo (Costa Rica) and De Leon (Uruguay).

The European selection is: Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, Hansi Muller, Paul Breitner, Karl-Heinz Forster (Germany), Alain Giresse, Didier Six, Maxime Bossis (France), Alessandro Altobelli, Claudio Gentile (Italy), Roger Milla (Cameroun), Liam Brady (Ireland), Bruno Pezzey (Austria), Rudi Kroll (Holland), Ricardo Gallego (Spain), Jean-Marie Pfaff (Belgium) and Thomas Revelli (Sweden).

The staging of the all-star match represents yet another coup for Japan, which cannot exactly be regarded as a football power.

Japan already hosts the annual World Club Championship, the Toyota Cup.

With its large population, its economic and

financial power, tremendous communication facilities and, most important of all, the wisdom of knowing where to spend the money, Japan can show the rest of the world how to promote soccer.

Meanwhile, Australia still wallows in the mire.

Some time ago, this country had the chance to stage such a match but the authorities declined, claiming it would attract little interest.

And yet, a spent force such as George Best, has still managed to attract thousands during his two unhappy visits to this country in recent years.

Socrates was willing, and still is, to come to Australia for exhibition games and coaching clinics, but there have been no takers.

His fees of \$5000 a match and \$4000 a day for coaching clinics are regarded as exorbitant by Australian administrators, who apparently don't realize that one sometimes has to spend money to make money.

It is then up to the public relations people to ensure the product is a success, as the visit by Pelé undoubtedly is.

Unfortunately, soccer marketing in Australia is usually a flop, I believe because the people responsible often wouldn't know a good product if they fell over it.

Soccer Registration Day

THE Executive Committee of the NSWASF Ltd recently held a weekend seminar in order to identify any current problems and to seek methods of overcoming these problems.

At the same time, it was hoped that such a seminar in a "think tank" environment over an extended period would uncover new ideas for the further enhancement of Soccer. Minutes of major decisions taken at the seminar have already been circulated.

One of the main causes of concern was a perceived overall drop in numbers and how this could be stopped.

The outcome of discussion on this important area was that, while there was nothing that could be done about the rain and how this affected registrations, there were a number of steps that could be taken to combat the other reasons identified for losses over and above everything already being done.

The existing competitions, introduction of mini soccer and this

years schools' development programme will have already made a difference.

Next year's Kanga Cup will also be seen as a reason for people to become involved and remain involved with the code.

We do, however, need to do more to counteract the promotional activities of other sports. We are the biggest and should aim to stay that way.

It is generally believed that a lot more people want to play soccer than actually do but only the more committed or better organised players go to the trouble to find out when and where to register and organise photos etc.

The more people that are aware of when and where to register, the more we will get. The easier we make this for them, the more people will register.

The proposed programme for 1991 is:

1. Create one major statewide Soccer Registration Day where by anyone anywhere can register on that day in as many locations as possible. For this purpose the second weekend after students return to school in February 1991 has been chosen i.e. Saturday 9 Febru-

ary 1991. Clubs may of course have as many other days as they wish but should ensure that this particular day is catered for.

2. Combine local advertising normally done by each club into full page advertisements using benefits to save money for clubs yet provide more exposure and subsidised as much as possible by Associations and the State Body.

3. Provide copy for a brochure to be produced for distribution by clubs to all schools in their area. The brochure will contain local association details as well as space for individual club information. Once again, by printing these in large numbers with amendments made to suit local requirements, considerable savings will be made and subsidies from Associations and the state body will reduce this cost even further.

4. Investigate the possibility of production of a colour catalogue (similar to K-Mart etc) for distribution to every household if possible containing full detail of sponsors products and soccer information paid for by sponsors also announcing Soccer Registration Day.

5. Use NSL matches and all soccer media for at least 2 weeks prior the registration day to promote it.

6. Depending on the extend of subsidy required by the state body for 1 to 5 above, investigate other promotions by the state body, including television advertising, radio advertising and all other forms of mass exposure aimed at awareness of Soccer Registration Day.

7. Undertake a shopping centre promotion in as many areas as possible using NSL players in order to promote the Registration Day.

8. Slightly after the event but still early in the season, attempt to set up a soccer pavilion at the Easter Show to encourage interest and registrations.

9. Resume the Schools Development Programme early in the year using NSL players to continue promotion.

This mammoth programme can only succeed with the full support of all Associations and clubs. In the near future you will be sent details regarding local paper advertising and the brochure seeking your specific content requirements.

The Robert Wheatley Column

Amateurs in Pele Promotion.

The NSWASF is fortunate enough to have under its wings an enormous range of talented soccer players and teams, who have competed throughout the year in week to week competitions or in specially designed tournaments for all ages.

Many of these winning teams have taken up an invitation to be a special part of the Pele promotion at the Sydney Football Stadium tonight (Monday) at 6.30pm.

Their involvement on the night will be to march into the ground where they will be acknowledged by SBS announcer Les Murray, who will briefly summarise their achievements for the year.

Pele will then make his grand entrance and will move amongst the teams.

At this stage 27 teams will assemble at the stadium and will include winners and runners up of the Umbro Youth League, Commonwealth Bank Champions of Champions, State, Robertson and Amateur



Cups, together with the Patrick State Championships.

This covers the full range of events organised by the NSWASF during the year, and allows these teams and individual players to be part of something they won't forget for a long time.

A video of Pele's greatest moments will be running as part of the ongoing entertainment, along with bands and soccer skill

displays.

A reminder that parents, family and friends are all welcome to come along and watch from the stands at no cost.

Sydney Olympic in Schools.

Sydney Olympic has underlined their commitment to the future of soccer by supporting the schools development program initiated by the NSWASF.

They are the second National League club to do so, and will be



certain to receive a wide range of benefits as a result of their two week assault on schools in the Ashfield area.

The co-ordinator of a large amount of the visits will be Olympic's pocket dynamo, Gary Phillips.

He has done an excellent job in his previous work with the Amateurs and will definitely be a fine ambassador for the code.

The schools and times are 12 Nov: Moorefield Girls High 1.30-2.30, 13 Nov: De La Salle College 9.30-10.50, 14 Nov: Lewisham Primary 9.30-10.50, 15 Nov: St Paul of the Cross 9.30-10.50, 16 Nov: Holy Innocents Primary 10.00-11.20, 20 Nov: Fort Street High 9.00-10.20, 21 Nov: Croydon Public 11.00-12.20, 22 Nov: Earlwood Primary 9.00-10.20, 23 Nov: St Francis Xavier's 9.30-10.50.

Anthony Pollard to the fore

PRIOR to moving to Springwood in 1972, Tony Pollard assisted in 1960 to form the then Bathurst Association Referees, and was inaugural treasurer at age 16.

In 1963 he started Bathurst Association Referee and was Secretary/Treasurer until he left Bathurst in 1970.

He was Bathurst Association treasurer until 1968, then president to 1970, and be-

came a life member of Bathurst Referees in 1969.

In 1971 he started Crookwell Soccer Club and Goulburn Soccer Association, and in both instances was in-

in 1989.

In 1977, Tony was elected treasurer of the NSW Soccer Referees (AASRF-NSW) and from 1980-1982 president.

In 1982 he became



LAST YEAR'S SPECIAL AWARD GROUP

AWARD RECIPIENTS AT OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE, PARRAMATTA. Rear: 1 to r: Colin Pound (Clarence River), Harry Gill (Sydney Amateurs), Harrie Denning (Sutherland Shire), Gary Hancock (Harden, South West Slopes), George Churchward (Nepean). Front: Rod Woods (Ku-ring-gai), Norm Chapman (Rutherford), Doug Edwards (Richmond Rovers, Lismore), Barbara Horley (Nepean), Lindsay Cosgrove (Southern Tablelands).

augural secretary/treasurer.

On moving to Springwood, Tony joined Springwood Soccer Club, and from 1974 to 1979 held various positions in the club, culminating in life membership in 1979.

1979 saw him accept the position of publicity officer with Nepean District Soccer Association, progressing to treasurer 1980-1989, and being elected president in 1990.

He was made a life member in 1988.

Not content with serving the NDSFA, he coached three premiership winning teams for the Springwood Club, at the same time playing for the over 30 team.

From 1975/1979 he was secretary of the Nepean District Soccer Referees Association, with whom he refereed.

He was honoured with life membership

and still is secretary/treasurer of the national body of the AASRF, being elected a life member in 1989.

In addition, he refereed State League in 1977/1988, and was a member of the NSL Referees Panel from 1985/1988.

Tony also coached at Bathurst and Crookwell.

Apart from his involvement with soccer, somehow Tony manages to run a very successful accounting business.

Certainly, Tony Pollard is one of the huge band of people who are making soccer football a major sport throughout the length and breadth of NSW.

SEND your stories and photographs to AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY. Team and action photos will be welcomed.

Address all material to ASW, PO Box 406, Broadway 2007.

Bob Dickey nominated by Clarence River for NSWASF award

BOB Dickey started locally with the City Soccer Club after moving to Grafton



manager for the Northern U17 Country teams.

Last year he was involved in the coaching of the Grafton 2nd Division side and will be involved again in 1991.

Sydney Branch meeting

BILL McILVEEN was re-appointed president of the influential Sydney Branch of the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation at its recent annual meeting.

Other appointments were Jim Forrest (secretary), Jim Burgess (treasurer), Bill Cullinan (competition secretary), Frank Broughton (registrar), Rod Woods (senior vice president), George Baldock (junior vice president) and Naomi Golding (minute secretary).

The prestigious Youth League will kick off on April 1 1991 with Division 1 catering for 12 teams and Division 2 being in A and B sections.

Metropolitan representatives will begin in mid-April, and will be grouped into North and South sections.

Mitre will no longer be sponsor for the Metropolitan representatives, so watch this space for the announcement of their replacement.

— KEITH GILMOUR

NSW AMATEURS MEETING



The NSW Amateur Soccer Federation's annual meeting has been set down for Saturday, November 24.

It will be held at Valentine Sports Park, 482 Meurants Lane, Parklea, and will commence at 10am.

Delegates from right throughout the state will be in attendance.

British blow-out in European Cups

BY LOU GAUTIER

BRITISH clubs crashed out of the European cups last week when only Manchester United survived a humiliating wipe-out.

Aston Villa discovered why Italian club football is the best in the world when their two-goal UEFA Cup lead evaporated in Milan where they were outclassed 3-0, with the local goals coming from Jurgen Klinsmann, Nicola Berti and Alessandro Bianchi in front of 80,000 delirious Milanese.

Scottish clubs, as usual, suffered a massive blow-out.

None managed a win as Rangers were held to a 1-1 draw by Red Star Belgrade at Ibrox in the Champions' Cup, Aberdeen were eliminated by Legia Warsaw in the Cup-Winners' Cup and, in the UEFA Cup, Hearts, like Aston Villa, learned painfully that you don't mess with Italian clubs when Lajos Detari's Bologna bundled them out.

As for Dundee United, they were trounced 4-0 at home by the very modest Dutchmen of Vitesse Arnhem.

So much of the much-vaunted post-World Cup British revival...

Surprise

The one surprise of the Champions' Cup was the elimination of Italian champions Napoli by Spartak Moscow, albeit in a penalty shoot-out.

Napoli is the only Italian club not to qualify for the next round where Italy will have seven representatives.

France is the only country with a 100 per cent record as their four clubs have all survived, led by Marseille who avenged their 3-2 defeat in Poland by demolishing Lech Poznan 6-1 at home.

Philippe Verduynse notched a hat-trick, but the good news for Marseille was the miraculous recovery by Yugoslav superstar Dragan Stojkovic, who made a surprise return to the team and laid on two goals.

AC Milan eliminated Frank Farina's Club Brugge 1-0 with a 46th minute Angelo Carbone goal, and look on course for a third consecutive Champions' Cup trophy.

The only surprise quarter-finalist in the Champions' Cup is Dynamo Dresden (ex-East Germany), who knocked out Malmö.

Giants

In the Cup-Winners' Cup, the two Italian

giants, Juventus and Sampdoria, had little trouble reaching the quarter-finals, as did Barcelona.

At first glance, this trio is favoured to win the trophy, but beware of Montpellier, who accounted for Steaua Bucharest 8-0 on aggregate after ousting PSV earlier.

Eddie Krncevic's FC Liege also made it to Cup-Winners' Cup quarter-finals where Dynamo Kiev also staked their claim.

In the UEFA Cup, which still has another round to go before reaching the quarter-final stage, Inter's crushing win over Villa and that big Dutch win at Dundee, of course, stand out, but full marks, too, to Torpedo Moscow for eliminating Sevilla of Spain, and to Denmark's Brondby for twice defeating Ferencvaros of Hungary.

Inter Milan remain the favourites to take out the UEFA Cup, their toughest competition no doubt coming from Bayer Leverkusen, AS Roma, Anderlecht and Sporting Lisbon.

Last week's results, with the qualifying clubs in brackets:

CHAMPIONS' CUP: Dresden-Malmö 1-1 (Dresden qualifies). Rangers-Red Star 1-1 (Red Star), Porto-Dinamo Bucharest 4-0 (Porto), FC Tirol-Real Madrid 2-2 (Real), CSKA Sofia-Bayern Munich 0-3 (Bayern), Marseille-Lech Poznan 6-1 (Marseille), Spartak Moscow-Napoli 0-0 (Spartak), Brugge-AC Milan 0-1 (Milan).

CUP-WINNERS' CUP: Steaua Bucharest-Montpellier 0-3 (Montpellier), Dukla Prague-Dynamo Kiev 2-2 (Dynamo), Wrexham-Manchester United 0-2 (United), Sampdoria-Olympiakos 3-1 (Sampdoria), Barcelona-Fram Reykjavik 3-1 (Barcelona), Estrela Amadora-FC Liege 1-0 (Liege), Legia Warsaw-Aberdeen 1-0 (Legia), Juventus FK Austria 4-0 (Juventus).

UEFA CUP: Admira Wacker-Lucerne 1-1 (Wacker), Bayer Leverkusen-Katowice 4-0 (Leverkusen), Inter Milan-Aston Villa 3-0 (Inter), Sevilla v Torpedo Moscow 2-1 (Torpedo), Ferencvaros-Brondby 0-1 (Brondby), Bologna-Hearts 3-1 (Bologna), Atalanta v Fenerbahce 4-1 (Atalanta), Politehnica Timisoara-Sporting Lisbon 2-0 (Sporting), Bordeaux-Magedburg 1-0 (Bordeaux), Roma-Valencia 2-1 (Roma), Monaco-Chernomorets Odessa 1-0 (Monaco), Borussia Dortmund-Universitate Craiova 1-0 (Dortmund), Anderlecht-Omonia Nicosia 3-0 (Anderlecht), Inter Bratislava-FC Koln 0-2 (Koln), Dundee United-Vitesse Arnhem 0-4 (Vitesse).



APIA UNDER 12 1990 — The team won the Canterbury and District SFA U12 Division 1 by a margin of 11 points and were undefeated. They took out the grand final with a 2-1 win over Balmain, and finished up NSW Champion of Champions with a 2-0 victory over Marconi. The players are: left to right: D. Mara, R. Hawley, J. Tizzone, A. Palazzolo, Z. Sotiropoulos, L. Martino, J. Baros, D. Orlando. Front row: A. Locantro, S. Bakopoulos, D. Testore, T. Maric, J. Anderson, R. Devita, P. Dominguez. Coach: M. Tzavalas.

Germans battle for "Viktoria"

GERMANY's football championship will once again be fought out for the Viktoria Trophy, which disappeared during World War II and has re-surfaced in what was East Germany.

The German Football Federation (DFB) said the tall, bronze trophy was awarded from 1904 to 1944, when it vanished after being won by Dresden.

The Viktoria turned up again in 1980 and was restored by the East German footballing federation, before being dumped in the federation's cellars.

Officials discovered it again during a post-reunification clearout.

Tokyo builds dome stadium

THE Tokyo Metropolitan Government plans to construct an all-weather dome stadium in the suburban Tama district, making it possible to bid for the 2002 World Cup soccer tournament in Japan.

The plan has been worked out by the metropolitan government's Tama district development committee as part of its projects for the hilly western suburbs of Tokyo, they said.

Welcoming the plan, the Japan Football Association (JFA) said if it materialises Japan will have more than the minimum number of stadiums required by FIFA.

The JFA launched a campaign to bring the



2002 World Cup to Japan last year.

FIFA regulations say that a host country needs to have at least 12 stadiums with 40,000 seats, and one main stadium with more than 80,000 seats to stage the World Cup.

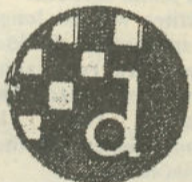
The United States is to host the 1994 competition, and the 1998 cup will be most likely held in France.

But the venue for 2002 is not yet decided, with Japan, China, South Korea and Saudi Arabia the main rivals.



Cameroun star Cyrille Makanaky (left) in action against England at Italia '90. He is now starring for Spanish surprise-package Burgos, who defeated giants Real Madrid and drew with Barcelona in consecutive weeks.

New name for Zagreb



DINAMO Zagreb are changing their name to Croatia Zagreb.

"Dinamo is an anachronistic, Bolshevik name," club president Zdenko Mahmet said.

"As the Bolshevik system has been liquidated here, we have decided to change the name."

The Yugoslav republic of Croatia, of which Zagreb is the capital, held its first free elections last April, ending the rule of Communism.

Mahmet said the team, eliminated from the UEFA Cup in the first round by Italian side Atalanta, would officially become Croatia from November 12 but would compete under their old name until the end of the current season.

BANS ARE CONFIRMED

AN Italian appeals tribunal has confirmed one-year bans for doping on AS Roma star players Andrea Carnevale and Angelo Perruzzi.

The Italian Soccer Federation (FIGC) tribunal also turned down an appeal by the club against a \$130,000 fine.

There can be no further appeal.

Carnevale and 21-year-old goalkeeper Perruzzi failed a dope test after Roma's 1-0 league win against Bari on September 23.

A second analysis earlier this month also showed traces of the



ANDREA CARNEVALE

amphetimine fentermine.

Club lawyer Franco Coppi said in his appeal that Carnevale, who scored the goal against Bari, was substituted before the end of the game and could have left before the doping test.

"The fact that he didn't ought to indicate his innocence," he said.

UEFA CUP DRAW

THIS is the draw for the third round of the UEFA Cup to be played on November 28 and December 12:

Brondby (Den) v Bayer Leverkusen (Ger).

Inter Milan (Ita) v Partizan Belgrade (Y).

AS Roma (Italy) v Bordeaux (France).

Admira Wacker (Austria) v Bologna (Italy).

Anderlecht (Belgium) v Borussia Dortmund (Ger).

Vitesse Arnhem (Holl) v Sporting (Portugal).

FC Koln (Germany) v Atalanta (Italy).

Torpedo Moscow (USSR) v Monaco (France).

The draw for the three European Cup quarter-finals will be made in Zurich on December 18.

Diego Maradona feeling his age

DIEGO Maradona complained about feeling his age when he celebrated his 30th birthday 10 days ago and said he wanted to win the European Cup with Napoli before he retired.

"It's too much, I don't want to talk about it," the Argentine World Cup captain said.

"God, how old I've become."

Maradona, who first played for Argentina at the age of 16, has been plagued by injury this season, his seventh with Italian champions Napoli.

His current contract runs until 1993.

He has said he would like to shorten his stay and return to Boca Juniors, the club he inspired to the Argentine league title in 1981 before joining Spanish side Barcelona.

Maradona was full of praise for his adopted city.

"I loved (Naples) immediately. Naples has satisfied all my desires. I'll always be in debt to the city," he said.

Maradona led Napoli to their first league title in 1987, their first Euro-



DIEGO MARADONA — too old at 30?

pean trophy, the UEFA Cup, in 1989 and another league triumph last season.

He has scored a club record 110 goals.

He has made conflicting statements about his future with Argentina and when he might retire.

"I'll quit before a lot of other players," he said.



Sampdoria's Soviet star Alexei Mikhailichenko — in great form and the idol of Genoese fans.

EURO-92 SCOREBOARD

GROUP 1

Iceland-Albania 2-0
Iceland-France 1-2
Czechosl-Iceland 1-0
Spain-Iceland 2-1
France-Czechosl 2-1



	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	2	0	0	4	2	4
Spain	1	1	0	0	2	1	2
Czechosl	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Iceland	4	1	0	3	4	5	2
Albania	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

GROUP 2

Switzerland-Bulgaria 2-0
Scotland-Romania 2-1
Romania-Bulgaria 0-3
Scotland-Switzerland 2-1



	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	2	2	0	0	4	2	4
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	3	2	2
Switzerland	2	1	0	1	3	2	2
Romania	2	0	0	2	1	5	0
San Marino	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

GROUP 3

USSR-Norway 2-0
Norway-Hungary 0-0
Hungary-Italy 1-1
Hungary-Cyprus 4-2
Italy-USSR 0-0



	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hungary	3	1	2	0	5	3	4
USSR	2	1	1	0	2	0	3
Italy	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Norway	2	0	1	1	0	2	1
Cyprus	1	0	0	1	2	4	0

GROUP 4

Nth Ireland-Yugoslavia 0-2
Faroe Islands-Austria 1-0
Denmark-Faroe Islands 4-1
Northern Ireland-Denmark 1-1
Yugoslavia v Austria 4-1



	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yugoslavia	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Denmark	2	1	1	0	5	2	3
Faroe Islands	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Nth Ireland	2	0	1	1	3	1	1
Austria	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

GROUP 5

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	1	1	0	0	3	1	2
Germany	1	1	0	0	3	2	2
Luxembourg	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
Belgium	1	0	0	1	1	3	0

GROUP 6

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portugal	2	1	1	0	1	0	3
Greece	1	1	0	0	4	0	2
Finland	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Holland	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Malta	1	0	0	1	0	4	0

GROUP 7

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ireland	1	1	0	0	5	0	2
England	1	1	0	0	2	0	2
Poland	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Turkey	1	0	0	1	0	5	0

FIFA defends its reforms

FIFA secretary-general Joseph Blatter says the major aim of soccer's governing body is to increase scoring, according to a published report last week.

"We have a precise idea in mind, that is making the work of defences more difficult, help offence and improve the show," Blatter told the Italian sports weekly "Guerin Sportivo."

Blatter said that recent suggestions to change some rules, including large goals, teams with fewer players and no walls on free kicks, were intended to improve scoring chances and increase fan enjoyment.

Low scoring, poor play and questionable officiating were major criticisms during the World Cup in Italy, which was otherwise a great competition," Blatter said.

He blamed coaches for overly defensive tactics which produced several dull games, including the World Cup final between West Germany and Argentina.

"Coaches are only teaching how to prevent scoring rather than how to score more goals. Not by chance they are the main opposers of the changes proposed by FIFA," Blatter said.

He said the proposed changes will be discussed at a FIFA meeting on December 13 and possibly submitted for approval to the International Board in Belfast on January 6.

Blatter denied changes in the length or in structure of playing time will be introduced by the 1994 World Cup scheduled in the United States.

Earlier this year,

FIFA president Joao Havelange had suggested possibly changing the game from two 45-minute halves to four 25-minute quarters, thus making its more appealing to US television and its advertisers.

"Soccer is a perfect product for the television as it has a fixed duration, that's two periods of 45 minutes each.

"We are not going to change this positive aspect in the next few years and not certainly in the World Cup in the States," Blatter said.

He also said he was against the organisation of a European soccer league for clubs, suggested by AC Milan, Marseille and Real Madrid presidents.

"Such a super league would mean the death of national leagues. With the super-tournament on television, fans would not go to the stadiums.

"Soccer needs supporters near the playing ground, also in amateur games, otherwise it dies."

And Blatter denied accusations by Argentine and Napoli superstar Diego Maradona that the World Cup draw had been fixed.

"Soccer draws are the easiest and most transparent operation," Blatter said.

"FIFA is above any possible suspicion.

"Maradona's claims are water under the bridge.

"Diego is a great player whom I like very much."



English league action between Tottenham and Leeds United. Promoted Leeds are doing well.

Mass exodus weakens Romania

ROMANIAN league football has been shorn of most of its top names in the 10 months since the Ceausescu regime was toppled.

The reasons are almost as much social and political as they are financial.

A floodtide of talent had been building up behind the dam creating a near-inflexible policy on transfers to the West.

Only the most loyal of national team veterans — such as Ilie Balaci and Rodion Camataru — were granted the favour of a transfer permit.

They have been followed, since the World Cup finals, by no fewer than 10 star names.

The transfer list looks like this:

Name	Pos	Age	From	To
Gheorghe Hagi	A	25	Steaua	Real Madrid
Marius Lacatus	A	26	Steaua	Florentina
Silviu Lung	G	34	Steaua	Logrones
Iosif Rotariu	M	28	Steaua	Galatasaray
Gavril Balint	A	27	Steaua	Burgos
Gheorghe Popescu	D	22	Craiova	PSV
Ioan Ovidu	M	22	Dinamo	Feyenoord
Ionut Lupescu	M	22	Dinamo	Leverkusen
Danut Lupu	M	23	Dinamo	Panathinaikos
Ion Andone	D	30	Dinamo	Elche
Florin Raducioiu	A	20	Dinamo	Bari
Michael Klein	D	28	Dinamo	Leverkusen



Young Steaua Bucharest striker Lazare (left), now one of Romania's better players because of the mass exodus of star players.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY — NOVEMBER 12, 1990 23

Pearce stays at Forest

NOTTINGHAM Forest captain Stuart Pearce has agreed to see out the rest of his top-flight career with Nottingham Forest after sign-

ing a five-year contract.

The 28-year-old England defender, who joined Forest from Coventry in 1985, admitted: "It was an important decision for me because

I'm talking about virtually the rest of my football life.

"At this stage of my career I'm looking for financial security, and the contract has given me that."

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Rui Aguas heads in Portugal's winning goal in their 1-0 Euro-92 qualifier against Holland. Neither country is playing this week.



CONSTANTIN RESIGNS

GHEORGHE Constantin has resigned after only 11 weeks as Romanian national coach.

A Romanian Federation official said Constantin had quit because of the team's poor showing in their opening European championship matches.

They have lost twice in group two — 2-1 away to Scotland and 3-0 at home to Bulgaria.

Constantin, a prolific scorer for Steaua Bucharest in the early 1960s, attributed the heavy defeat to the Bulgarians to the exodus of his country's top players to foreign clubs.

He took over as national team coach in August from Emerich Jenei who stepped down after leading the side in the World Cup finals in Italy where Romania reached the second round before losing to Ireland in a penalty shoot-out.

Tough times in Czechoslovakia

ECONOMIC problems are making life difficult for most people in Czechoslovakia — and footballers are no exception.



A commission has been set up by the FA, headed by secretary Rudolf Bata, to consider ways of stopping the constant exodus of leading players to foreign countries.

That is the only way they can cash in on their ability, and the situa-

tion is likely to continue unless the commission can find some other solutions.

Sponsorship is one possibility, but what little there is in the country at present concerns foreign companies.

For example, Minolta of Austria now sponsor Nitra, who have been doing well so far this season and might even pull off the championship if they maintain their early form.

There are other sponsorships in operation and more are planned, but the general economic climate is not good and some long-running associations with state enterprises have been abruptly terminated.

THE battle for berths in the European Championship finals in Sweden in June 1992 really hots up this week with 10 qualifiers on the menu — nine on Wednesday and one on Saturday.

The only game not played midweek is Albania v France in Tirana where the French will attempt to stay on top of Group 1 against opponents whose only match to date was a 2-0 loss in Iceland.

France will be minus potent striker Eric Cantona, out with a fractured knee, but France are in top form and

have not been beaten for 20 months — the best record in Europe — and are unlikely to

slip up.

Their main group rivals, Czechoslovakia and Spain, clash in Prague.

A win is vital already for the home side, beaten in Paris four weeks ago.

Skuhravy

Spain are never at ease away from the friendly confines of Seville, and Milan Macala's team should scrape home by the odd goal, with their hopes again very much resting in the boots of Tomas Skuhravy.

In Group 2, Scotland make their first foray away from Hampden Park where they have won their first two games.

They are sure to be in for a torrid 90 minutes



TOMAS SKUHRAVY

BY LOU GAUTIER

against a Bulgarian side which thrashed Romania 3-0 in Bucharest.

Bulgaria all the way in this one, and also in this group Switzerland should notch two more points at the expense of tiny San Marino, making their European Championship debut.

A repeat of the Faroe Islands vs Austria upset is out of the question — the vastly improved Swiss will win, and win emphatically.

Cyprus and Norway, the lesser lights of Group 3, which also includes Hungary, Italy and the Soviet Union, do battle and the Norwegians should win, as they did when the sides met in the 1990 World Cup qualifiers.

Austria, whose form has been catastrophic since Italia '90, will attempt to restore pride when they take on North Ireland in Group 4, but the way they are playing, the Ulstermen look a safe bet for at least a point.

Highlight

The week's highlight will be the other game in this group — Denmark v Yugoslavia.

It should be quite some game in Copenhagen as the very much in-form Yugoslavs, led by goal-machine Darko Pancev, come up against 50,000 fanatical Danish fans.

Denmark started their Euro-92 campaign on a very tentative note when they dropped a point to Northern Ireland in Belfast, but with Brian Laudrup in daz-



BRIAN LAUDRUP

zling form, I take them to win narrowly in a highly entertaining match.

Luxembourg covered themselves with glory when they only lost 3-2 to world champions Germany after trailing 3-0 two weeks ago.

They are again at home on Wednesday — to Wales, whose convincing 3-1 win over Belgium was one of the high spots of the qualifiers to date.

With due respect to the amateurs from Luxembourg, I cannot see them grabbing a point against Wales' well-heeled English league brigade.

There's a full programme in Group 7, with Turkey at home to Poland and England away to the Republic of Ireland.

Poland showed marked improvement despite their 2-0 opening loss to England at

Wembley, but they are facing a revved up Turkey, smarting from the 5-0 thrashing in Dublin last month.

Turkish coach Sepp Piontek, the former Danish supremo, says he needs another year to make his side competitive.

I fancy a draw here. The Irish and English must be heartily sick of the sight of each other as this will be their third meeting in official competition in two years.

Ireland won at Euro-88 and the teams draw at Italia '90.

The Irish have not been beaten at home for almost four years, and a draw looks the likeliest outcome.

Let's just hope the teams play better than in Cagliari where they gave us the worst match, by far, of the 1990 World Cup finals.

• Results, tables on page 23